



December Social Meeting: December 6th, 2012
Central Location: Downtown Aquarium (Time: 6:00 to 10:00 PM)

Satellite Location: No Satellite Meeting in December

Inside this issue:

Meeting Details	2
Letter from the Chair	3
STS-AIChE's Season Pass	4
Re-Print of Q&A From STS-AIChE'S Interview with Houston Chronicle	6
K12 Volunteer Opportunities	7
Call for Volunteers	8
Contact Information	9
Subscribe/Unsubscribe	9

STS-AIChE December Dinner at the Downtown Aquarium

The Young Professionals have been planning a great December meeting. We welcome AIChE **members and their significant others** to join us at one of Houston's most recognized landmarks: the Downtown Aquarium. The aquarium is the product of the redevelopment two downtown Houston landmarks – Fire Station No. 1 and the Central Waterworks Building. There will be a **guided tour of the aquarium, a fantastic buffet dinner, and a cash bar**. Each registration includes the guided tour, dinner, one drink ticket, and parking. This event is limited to **145 people**, so register early to reserve your spot!



Date: **December 6, 2012**

Time: **6:00 to 10:00 PM**

Where: **Downtown Aquarium 410 Bagby St, Houston, TX 77002**

Cost: **\$35 for members and guests**

Directions:

From North Houston

Take I-45 South, exit McKinney. Turn left on Bagby. Downtown Aquarium will be on your left after you cross Texas Street.

From West Houston

Take I-10 East to Smith exit. Turn right on Franklin. Turn left on Bagby. Downtown Aquarium will be on your right.

From South Houston

Take Hwy 288 to I-45 North. Exhibit Houston Ave/Memorial Drive. Stay in the right hand lane for Memorial. Make a right at the Memorial light. Go to Bagby and make a left at the light. Downtown Aquarium will be on your left.

From East Houston

Take I-10 West to San Jacinto. Go to Prairie and make a right. Go to Bagby, turn right. Downtown Aquarium is on your left.

Meeting Registration Information

Membership in STS-AIChE is a bargain at \$20/year. If you wish to become a member, you may join at the registration desk at the meeting.

Pre registration for members and guests \$35

NOTE: You have until 4 PM CST on December 5th to pre-register online.

Pre-registration for the meeting is now open through our website at:

<http://sts.aiche.org/event/sts-aiche-december-2012-monthly-dinner-meeting>

Meeting Location— Downtown Aquarium



This month's meeting will be held at Downtown Aquarium ([410 Bagby St, Houston, TX 77002](#)) Double click on the map to the left for directions from your location. There will be no satellite meeting in December. More details are included in the next section below.

North Houston Satellite Meeting Information

There will be no satellite meeting in December since the main meeting is a social at the Aquarium Restaurant and will have no technical program. The next satellite meeting will be on Thursday, January 10th. Please join us then and bring you fellow chemical engineers

WinSim® Inc.	
Advanced Engineering Software	
<i>Rigorous Process Simulation for Chemical and Hydrocarbon Processes including Refining, Refrigeration, Petrochemical, Gas Processing, Gas Treating, Pipelines, Fuel Cells, Ammonia, Sulfur, Methanol and Hydrogen Facilities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 60 Thermo Methods / 1,200 Pure Components• Integrate Thermo and Properties in your software with Link2WinSim• Distillation Towers, HXC's, Compressors, Flash, etc• New Dynamic Capabilities• Mixed Amine Modeling & Thermo• Results transfer to MS Excel• Crude Feeds & Pseudo Components• Free Introductory Class/ Feb 7, 2012	<p>Download Free Trial at www.winsim.com Email: sales@winsim.com Fax: (281) 565-7593</p>

Letter from the Chair - James Turner

It has been a busy year. I can't believe my term as Chair of the South Texas Section is almost over. While it has meant some extra effort on top of my "day" job, in retrospect, it's been good. While I may have been the one making announcements at the meetings and sending out e-mail blasts, it is far from a "one man" show. The support that you get from the past Chairs, other STS officers, long time volunteers, and AIChE headquarters is great, and overall, the STS runs like a well maintained machine.

This month I want to highlight our non-officer volunteers. These are people that, while they don't have a position on the Executive Board, continue to do a lot behind the scenes for the good of the section. On top of the list is Richard Newman, who handles most of our arrangements. Every month he makes the arrangements for the main meeting location, including the guarantee count and number of rooms required, and gets the contract to the Chair to sign. He also usually manages the registration table and cash box at the meetings. He does all of this "under the radar", without being asked. I understand Richard is retiring at the end of the year and may be travelling more in the new year. If he cuts back his involvement in STS, he will be sorely missed!

David Silarski also helps with arrangements, and keeps the STS membership roster. Another tireless volunteer is Ernie Althaus, who coordinates Science Fair judges, and is always willing to help with what is needed. Matt Kolodney is our unofficial photographer, and does a good job taking pictures of award recipients at the meetings. Speaking of awards, Tom Menn pretty much single handedly coordinates our awards, which is a major effort. David Karesh has agreed to be lead our Elections Committee for the last several years, and does a great job.

Special thanks also go to everyone who worked on the Regional Process Technology Conference, led by the Conference Chair, Alan Rossiter. And thanks to the Young Professionals (YPs) for again planning our December meeting, as well as many other activities throughout the year. Lisa Swanson and Carlos Salamanca are doing a great job leading this group.

Speaking of elections, our 2013 Officers Election has been completed, and the results have been accepted by the Executive Committee. Past Chair Ken Cox did a great job putting together a slate of candidates, so there was no way the Section could lose. Thanks to everyone that volunteered to run for an office. The newly elected officers are: Chair Elect: Carol Schmidt, Treasurer, Jay Chandrasekaran, Position 1: Shane Tierling, and Position 3, Aiying (Annie) Li. In December, Gary Gildert will be taking over as Chair, and I will move to Past Chair. Our current Past Chair, Ken Cox, will retire from the Executive Board, but hopefully continue as an active member of the section with the unofficial title "Chair Emeritus".

In our November meeting, David Rosenthal with Jacobs Engineering, and current AIChE President, did a great job as our dinner speaker. After seeing his presentation, it is easy to see how he got elected AIChE President. He gave an entertaining and educational presentation on the importance of reliability and maintenance for operating facilities. Our meeting was the same week of the AIChE Annual Meeting, so David had 16 speeches to make that week. I am glad he included our STS meeting as his last speech of the week!

If you have not already registered for the December meeting at the Downtown Aquarium, please do it quickly if you want to get in. We have set the attendance limit at 145 people, and we anticipate selling out. For only \$35 per person, members and their significant others can enjoy a tour of the aquarium, a buffet dinner, and a drink. Parking is also included.

I hope to see you at one of the upcoming meetings. If I haven't met you, come up and introduce yourself!

Best Regards,

James Turner



ارامكو السعودية
Saudi Aramco

THIS IS YOUR DEFINING MOMENT.
DREAM BIG

Saudi Aramco Is Hiring.

With a career at Saudi Aramco, a global leader in the energy industry, you'll get to work with world-class technology in an organization that thrives on its commitment to excellence. The scale of our operations and advanced technical environment will stretch your capabilities to the fullest.

Hiring managers are interested in talking to professionals about the rewards of working for Saudi Aramco.

Why Saudi Aramco?

There has never been a better time for a career with Saudi Aramco. The company is involved in a number of large-scale activities to continue to support its operations. This includes a strategic intent to develop the company by 2020 into the world's leading integrated energy and chemicals company. If you've ever wondered about a career with Saudi Aramco and the expatriate lifestyle, this is the time to pursue it.

Who Should Apply?

We are looking for experienced professionals for the following positions:
Process Engineer - Corrosion Engineer - Process Control Engineer - DCS Engineer

**www.Aramco.Jobs/AICHE
uncommon opportunities**

STS-AIChE's Season Pass

Announcing the launch of the Season Pass for the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, South Texas Section dinner meetings for \$99.

Season Pass offers the convenience of a single sign-up and single payment for all five meetings in the spring season of the 2013 program. Season pass holders also get priority sign-up for all special events. Please visit our website for the latest schedule of topics and venues.

Season Pass holders are recognized as patrons on the STS-AIChE web site and in our award winning newsletter. This is a great way to show your support for your section at no additional cost. Season Pass holders will be issued a permanent name tag – no need for sticky paper name tags. Your fellow members will recognize you as a patron and regular attendee.

Season Pass holders save over 35% compared to the on-site cost of the dinner meetings. They also save the hidden costs of multiple transactions and tracking the payments and reimbursements, if applicable.

Season Pass will be available after the December meeting at <http://sts.aiche.org/>

FAQ

What if I cannot attend a dinner meeting?

Guests and visitors are always welcome. Feel free to send someone else in your place and just let them know at the door of the substitution.

What if I cannot attend the meeting and cannot find a substitute?

Thank you for your donation. The announcements and main speaker are available for viewing on-line. See our web site for details.

I am a big supporter of the section, but I don't want my name posted all over the web. Can I opt-out of the publications?

Yes, just let us know and we will not put your name on our list so that you can continue to fly under the radar. You always have the option of hand writing a name tag.

Will I still get in if I forget my name tag at home?

Yes. We keep a master sign-up list at the door. Patrons are at the top of the list!

I normally sign up in advance. Am I still saving money?

Yes. The cash savings is smaller, but is real. You will also save the time and effort of multiple payments.

Re-Print of Q&A From STS-AIChE'S Interview with Houston Chronicle

An article on the state of chemical engineering was published in the November 18, 2012 issue of the Houston Chronicle ["Chemical engineers ride crest of domestic oil and gas boom," by Jennifer Kimrey (Jobs Correspondent)]. The article was adapted in part from the Q&A below, prepared by James Turner and other members of STS-AIChE.

Give me a little history about the chapter: when it started, how many members, etc.

AIChE (American Institute of Chemical Engineers) was founded in 1908 to promote the chemical engineering profession and provide a structure for engineers to communicate and collaborate. The South Texas Section (STS) was founded in 1942. Our region is the greater Houston area up to Conroe and College Station. Both AIChE and STS are non-profit organizations.

As a section of AIChE, STS serves chemical engineering professionals in the region through education, professional development and networking. Our e-mail distribution list is over 3000, most of whom are AIChE members.

What purpose does STS-AIChE serve?

Our primary activities are monthly meetings, which typically have technical workshops and a speaker of general interest to engineers, and social events throughout the year. The meetings provide networking opportunities, and the workshops and dinner presentations provide continuing education credits, which are required by the State of Texas for engineers to maintain their Professional Engineer registration. We also provide a way for engineers to give back to society by supporting the Houston Science Fair, K-12 outreach, local student AIChE chapters and scholarships for Chemical Engineering students at local universities.

We also sponsor a two day Regional Process Technology Conference. This conference has become the premier regional conference for engineers to discuss developments in process technology and industry trends - discussing refining, petrochemical, and upstream processes and covering separations, catalysis and thermodynamics technologies. The fifth annual conference is scheduled for October 3-4, 2013.

Our monthly meetings and the Regional Conference provide an opportunity for engineers to share developments and best practices to improve safety, reduce emissions and improve energy efficiency. Improvements in these areas benefit society as a whole, in addition to helping the engineers and their companies.

One last function that AIChE and STS provide for our members is job search resources and referrals.

More information on all of our activities is available at our website, sts.aiche.org.

What is STS-AIChE's take (alternatively, what is your take) on the state of chemical engineering/engineering today? (For example: Have more jobs been created? Is it more competitive? Is entering the field easier or harder than in years' past?)

Now is a great time to be a chemical engineer in South Texas. The combination of technology advancements in horizontal drilling, seismic imaging and downhole well fracturing techniques have led to a significant increase in natural gas and oil production at various locations in the U.S., particularly in Texas. This lower cost fuel and feedstock supply, along with the existing pipeline and petrochemicals infrastructure and the many qualified and competitive support and services companies, provide a unique opportunity for major expansions in the petrochemicals and gas processing industry in the U.S. Gulf Coast. The petrochemicals industry was stagnant in the U.S. for several decades due to higher feedstock and operating costs, but now we can compete with anyone worldwide. We are seeing many companies take advantage of the new situation by moving forward with major expansion projects. These projects require engineers of all types and experience levels.

While the recent renaissance in the gas processing and petrochemicals industry is significant, I don't want to imply that all chemical engineers work in oil, gas or petrochemicals. Biotechnology, renewables, semiconductor manufacturing, medical/pharmaceuticals, nanotechnology and the space industry also offer a wide variety of employment opportunities to chemical engineers. Engineers fulfill many different roles as well - from research and product development to project execution, equipment manufacturing and sales and plant operations support. In addition, many engineers move into business development, marketing or management roles as they progress through their career.

Chemical engineers are involved in the design and production of the raw materials, power and transportation fuels used to produce and transport almost every product used by people in our community. We therefore have an important role in making society better for everyone.

Where do you see the industry in the next 5-10 years? What kind of changes will current and future engineers need to make, if any, to adapt to the industry in the future?

Everything - design tools, processes, equipment, procedures, regulations - is always evolving. So the only guarantee is that the way things are in the future will be different than the way they are today. Engineers should be prepared for life-long learning - no one will ever get to the point where they know everything, and if you don't keep learning, your skills will weaken over time.

Computer tools and our understanding of processes have evolved significantly in the last few decades, but at the same time, we perform more safety reviews, study more scenarios and produce more documentation of alternate operating cases than was done in the past. So the total effort to engineer projects has decreased some but not a lot.

Most operating companies are large multi-national firms, and most projects use engineering companies that are executing projects in multiple offices around the world. It is not unusual to have one project use engineers in three continents working closely together to produce the design. Understanding other languages and cultures, and being able to adapt to new situations, are valuable tools for engineers, in addition to their technical skills.

K12 Volunteer Opportunities

AICHE and STS are working to start up K12 outreach programs. We are encouraging STS members to attend various local outreach events and report back to STS and AIChE on their experience. We are encouraging STS members to report back to Matt Kolodney (mkolodne@tceq.state.tx.us) with one-page descriptions of their K12 outreach experiences, what worked well and what didn't. These will be reviewed locally and passed on to the AIChE National K12 program. Some local K12 opportunities are listed below.

HUNSTEM web site: <http://hunstem.uhd.edu/> Already has a wide range of educational resources for use by interested teachers and volunteers. AIChE (national) is encouraging cooperation with organizations such as HUNSTEM.

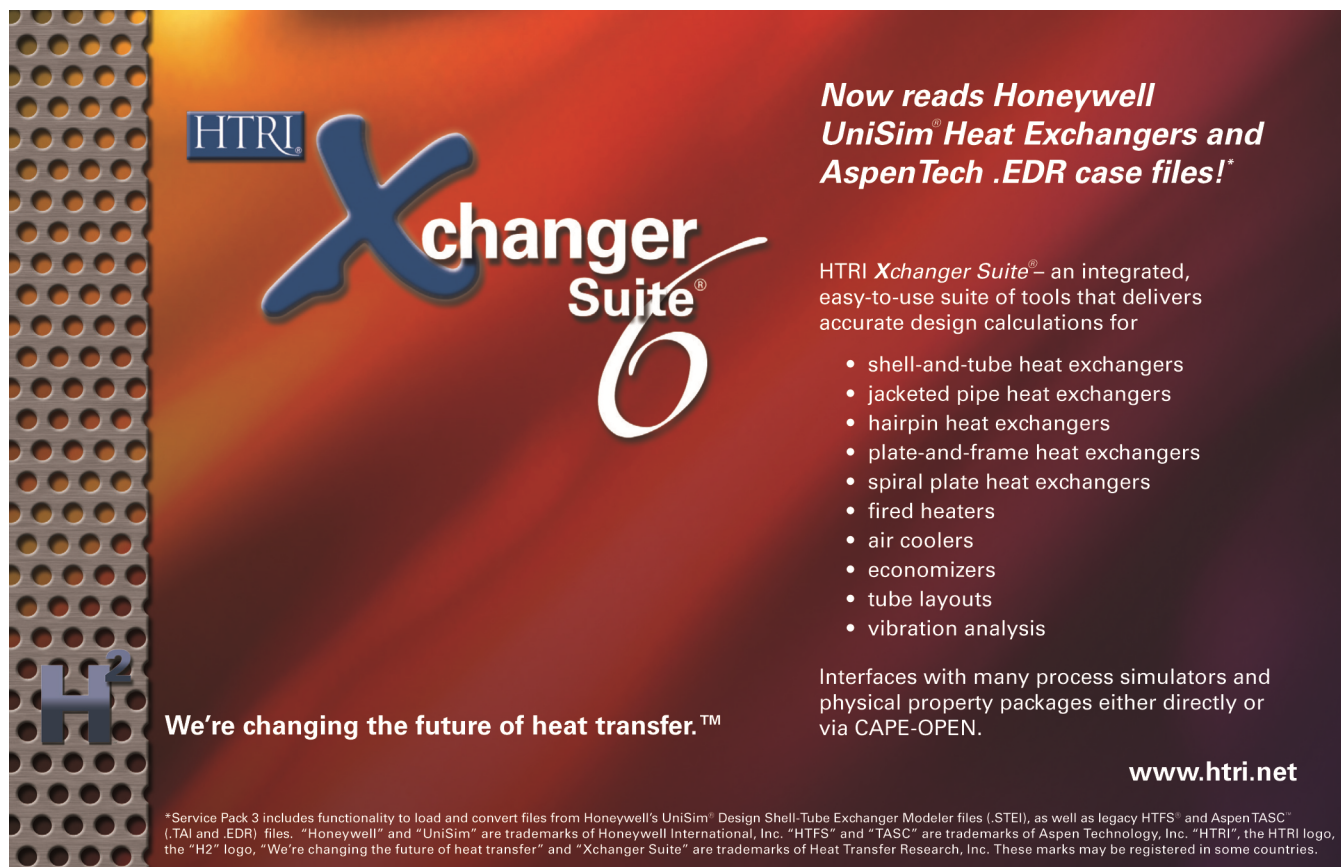
IEEE http://www.ieee-houston.org/Committees/SAC/Brochure_IEEE%20Houston_7_Oct_2007.pdf This ongoing Houston Area program assists local schools with teacher training demonstrations.

SEFH <http://hunstem.uhd.edu/SEFH/> Science and Engineering Fair of Houston

Houston Museum of Natural Science (<http://www.hmns.org>) has ongoing outreach programs and could use more volunteers.

The Houston Children's Museum (<http://www.cmhouston.org>) also has outreach programs.

For more information, contact Matt Kolodney (713-471-8956) or mkolodne@tceq.state.tx.us.



The advertisement features a background with a vertical strip of a perforated metal texture on the left. The main title 'HTRI Xchanger Suite 6' is prominently displayed in the center-left. To the right, a headline states 'Now reads Honeywell UniSim® Heat Exchangers and AspenTech .EDR case files!'. Below this, a paragraph describes the software as an integrated suite for accurate design calculations. A bulleted list follows, detailing the types of heat exchangers and components it can model. Further down, it mentions interfaces with process simulators and physical property packages. The website 'www.htri.net' is listed at the bottom right. A small 'H²' logo is in the bottom left corner. A fine print disclaimer at the very bottom explains the service pack's functionality and lists various trademarks.

HTRI Xchanger Suite[®] 6

Now reads Honeywell UniSim[®] Heat Exchangers and AspenTech .EDR case files!

HTRI Xchanger Suite[®] – an integrated, easy-to-use suite of tools that delivers accurate design calculations for

- shell-and-tube heat exchangers
- jacketed pipe heat exchangers
- hairpin heat exchangers
- plate-and-frame heat exchangers
- spiral plate heat exchangers
- fired heaters
- air coolers
- economizers
- tube layouts
- vibration analysis

Interfaces with many process simulators and physical property packages either directly or via CAPE-OPEN.

www.htri.net

*Service Pack 3 includes functionality to load and convert files from Honeywell's UniSim[®] Design Shell-Tube Exchanger Modeler files (.STEI), as well as legacy HTFS[®] and AspenTASC[®] (.TAI and .EDR) files. "Honeywell" and "UniSim" are trademarks of Honeywell International, Inc. "HTFS" and "TASC" are trademarks of Aspen Technology, Inc. "HTRI", the HTRI logo, the "H²" logo, "We're changing the future of heat transfer" and "Xchanger Suite" are trademarks of Heat Transfer Research, Inc. These marks may be registered in some countries.

Call for Volunteers

The Career and Education Operating Council (CEOC) of AIChE (National) has studies underway in several areas of interest to AIChE members. Additional volunteers are needed for committees performing the areas listed below. Working on one of these committees teaches you about the operation of AIChE, as well as teamwork, management, and leadership. Lessons from the latter three will spill over into your job, personal life, and other nonprofit organizations. The committee topics include:

A. Leadership development — New options for the training and development of leaders in AIChE. Our current methods are useful, but we're looking at others, too.

B. Fundraising — There is a modest but significant budget gap in AIChE National, and we can better serve our members if we can shrink it. Additionally, the programming of many local sections could benefit by fund raising.

C. Local Section Committee (LSC) Support — Unlike the STS, many local sections are facing difficulties, and the LSC is developing projects to assist "local sections in need."

D. Membership — The AIChE needs to work on increasing membership of National and of local sections. We're looking for additional good ideas. This includes how to explain the benefits of membership, how to encourage more student members to become YPs and how to encourage more first-time attendees at local section meetings to return and get involved.

E. Communication — Many AIChE members don't seem to learn about AIChE events and programs that they later wish they'd heard about. How can we improve communications with members? This could include mailings, websites, e-mail, telephone, etc.

These studies will involve identifying and evaluating alternatives, preparing "best practices" for local sections, and executing developmental projects. If you might be interested in one or more of these areas, please contact Matt Kolodney (mkolodney1@comcast.net or 713-471-8956)

Increase safety, decrease cost.

It's what we do.



EST Group's patented Pop-A-Plugs® quickly seal leaking heat exchanger tubes, up to 7,000 psi. Our GripTight™ hydrostatic test plugs eliminate welding caps on bare-end pipe, rated to 80% of yield strength in A-106b pipe. Our Double Block and Bleed plugs quickly isolate the hot work area from explosive upstream vapors, and also test the weld connection to 2,200 psi.

**CURTIS
WRIGHT**
Flow Control Company
EST Group

We invite you to see all that we can do for you at <http://estgroup.cwfc.com>

South Texas Section AICHE

STS AICHE
P. O. Box 2160
Sugar Land, TX 77487-2160

2012 Officers and Contact Information

Officers

Chair James Turner
sts-chair@aiche.org

Chair Elect Gary Gildert
sts-chairelect@aiche.org

Past Chair Ken Cox
sts-pastchair@aiche.org

Secretary Kelly Richardson
sts-secretary@aiche.org

Treasurer Katherine Leskin
sts-treasurer@aiche.org

Executive Committee

Position 1: Education
Heather Gilligan
sts-position1@aiche.org

Position 2: Outreach
Ramanan Krishnamoorti
sts-position2@aiche.org

Position 3: Communications
Jay Chandrasekaran
sts-position3@aiche.org

Position 4: Human Resources
Teresa Jurgens-Kowal
sts-position4@aiche.org

Volunteers

Arrangements: Richard Newman,
David Silarski

Membership: David Silarski

Young Professionals: Lisa Swanson
(sts-yp@aiche.org)

Awards: Tom Menn

SOUTH TEXAS SECTION MISSION STATEMENT

As a section of AICHE, we serve chemical engineering professionals in the South Texas region through education, professional development, and networking.

Vision 2013

<<To be developed>>



— SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE INFORMATION —

Our newsletter subscription list is by invitation only.

Subscribe: Click on the following link: [Subscribe](#).

Unsubscribe: Click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#). Your email address will be removed from the subscriber list.

— MAINTAIN YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION WITH STS —

Maintain your contact information with the South Texas Section using the online community:

<https://www.memberconnections.com/olc/pub/CHM/>

To update your information, log in, then select [Member Directory](#).

Select the link to [View/Update Your Online Directory Listing](#).

Contact the New York office for PERMANENT ADDRESS CORRECTIONS:



xpress@aiche.org



1-800-AICHE (1-800-242-4363)



AICHE Express Service Center
3 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10016-5991

The South Texan Newsletter Crew

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE NEWSLETTER? We want to know!

Contact us at sts-newsletter@aiche.org with comments, questions, suggestions, and ideas for next month.

Newsletter Editors

Jay Chandrasekaran
KBR
601 Jefferson Avenue
Houston, TX 77002
(281) 795-0768
jayachandranc@gmail.com

Submit an article! Contact:

Matt Kolodney
TCEQ
5425 Polk Avenue, Suite H
Houston, TX 77023-1486
(713) 767-3752
mkolodne@tceq.state.tx.us

Reserve your ad space! Contact:

Teresa Jurgens-Kowal
Global NP Solutions, LLC
2323 Clear Lake City Blvd., #180
Suite 177
Teresa@globalnpsolutions.com

