



# SOCMA SUMMIT & ANNUAL CONFERENCE

## PREDICTIONS & PLANNING

OCTOBER  
**29-30**

Emeline Hotel  
181 Church St, Charleston, SC

# About the SOCMA Summit

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**29-30**

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181 Church St, Charleston, SC

The SOCMA Summit is the annual event for leaders in decision making roles at Specialty and Fine Chemical Companies.

This year's theme "*Predictions & Planning*" focuses on trends and information to inform strategic plans and execution.

Tap into the wealth of collective wisdom at the SOCMA Summit and exchange ideas to drive your company forward.



[www.socma.org/summit](http://www.socma.org/summit)

11:00am-6:00pm

11:30am-12:15pm

12:15pm-12:30pm

## Registration Open

## Networking Lunch

## Opening Remarks



Jennifer Abril,  
SOCMA



Kate Hampford Donahue,  
Hampford Research

12:30pm-1:15pm

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

### Megatrends and their Anticipated Effects on Business



**Speaker:** Michael Rogers, Author & Recent  
Futurist-In-Residence at the *New York Times*

Michael Rogers, author, technology pioneer, and futurist, will discuss various scenarios of how the business landscape will change over the next decade, highlighting key challenges such as a new emerging workforce that business leaders will encounter. He will explore how successful companies navigate innovation while simultaneously addressing daily business challenges.

**Key Themes:** Future Planning, Technology, Innovation, Generational Workforce Changes

1:15pm-2:00pm

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

### More of the Same or a New Ballgame? Planning for a Post Election Landscape



**Speaker:** David Jolly, Political Consultant,  
Attorney and Former US Congressman

The U.S. political landscape remains as turbulent and uncertain as ever, impeding the ability to predict or prepare your company for action. This session dives into various scenarios that could result from changes in administration and congressional seats, followed by insightful analysis of major policy issues that will influence the trajectory of growth for specialty chemical companies.

**Key Themes:** U.S. Elections, Policy, Regulations

2:00pm-2:15pm

## Networking Break



## Tuesday, October 29 (Continued)

2:15pm-3:00pm

### Ready, Set, Partner! 192.5 Million Reasons to Contract with the Federal Government



**Speaker:** Marta Pazos, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition & Sustainment



**Speaker:** Boudewijn van Lent, President and CEO, VanDeMark Chemical

What would you do with a \$192.5 million dollar manufacturing contract? Earlier this year, the Department of Defense announced the award of 7 contracts to produce 22 critical chemicals to strengthen the U.S. supply chain, but becoming a federal contractor may seem daunting and exhaustive. During this presentation, hear from a SOCMA member company on lessons learned about the government procurement process, and how one CEO invested in preparation by finding the right partner.

**Key Themes:** Government Contracting, Critical Chemicals, DOD

3:00pm-3:15pm

### Networking Break



## Tuesday, October 29 (Continued)

3:15pm-3:50pm

Option 1

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS: CHOOSE YOUR TOPIC

#### Pro-Growth Tax Policies Expiring in 2025



**Moderator:** Clinton Beeland, CJB Industries



**Speaker:** Yair Holtzman, Anchin



**Speaker:** Charles Crain, NAM

Tax policy has an impact throughout every part of a company, from workforce management, research and development, material sourcing and the transportation of finished goods. During this moderated panel, our speakers will identify expiring tax policy, and what SOCMA will do to raise awareness of the negative tax implications on specialty chemical manufacturers.

**Key Themes:** Tax Policy, R&D Credit

Option 2

#### Setting the Record Straight: The Court's Impact on Regulatory Decision Making



**Speaker:** David J. Topping, Phelps Dunbar



**Speaker:** Sophie D. Gray, Phelps Dunbar

On June 28, the Supreme Court overturned what has long been known as the Chevron Deference, which allowed regulatory agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to interpret ambiguous federal statutes. While most of the world believes this will expand innovation and diminish overburdensome regulations, the Loper Bright foreshadows how future Administrations may exploit the Supreme Court to change rulemaking.

**Key Themes:** Chevron Deference, Regulatory Decisions

3:50pm-4:00pm

#### Networking Break

4:00pm-4:45pm

### HOT TOPICS EXCHANGE: CHOOSE YOUR TOPIC

#### Executive Fishbowl (Open to Manufacturing Executives Only)



**Moderating:** Steve B. Hedrick, Chairman, President & CEO, AVN Corporation

Exclusively for c-suite manufacturer executives, this closed session combines informal networking and conversations to address challenges in the specialty and batch chemical industry. Share your successes and learn from others during this unique fishbowl.

**Key Themes:** AI Adoption, Workforce Challenges, Operational Pain Points

4:00pm-4:20pm

#### Industry Insights: Mergers & Acquisitions



**Speaker:** Kevin Yttre,  
Grace Matthews

How has the private equity landscape changed in 2024, and how are companies being evaluated. In a time where more dollars and funds are available, hear how the aspect of certainty impacts a deal more than valuation multiples.

4:20pm-4:40pm

#### Industry Insights: Trade & Tariffs



**Speaker:** Robert Stang,  
Husch Blackwell

The impact of tariffs (actual and threatened) on U.S. imports continues to influence and shape supply chains and cost structures for specialty chemical manufacturers, distributors and end-users in this hot political environment. Bob Stang will discuss how tariffs may impact your company's ability to conduct business in the U.S. and globally.

4:40pm-5:00pm

#### Industry Insights: Manufacturing & Operations



**Speaker:**  
Paul Ameis, WTS, Inc.

Supplier sustainability continues to be scrutinized. In this hot topic exchange, WTS, Inc will share its holistic approach to mining by-products and how companies are now truly walking up (or down) the Waste pyramid.

## Tuesday, October 29 (Continued)

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5:00pm-6:00pm

### Networking Reception

6:00pm-8:00pm

### Awards & Recognition Dinner

Celebrate the accomplishments of fellow SOCMA members during the annual awards dinner. Recipients of SOCMA's Safety Recognition Program and individual honors will be recognized during the evening program.

## Wednesday, October 30

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7:30am-8:15am

### Breakfast

8:15am-8:50am

### Annual Business Meeting



Kate Hampford Donahue,  
Hampford Research



Mara Gliozzi,  
McGean



Jennifer Abril,  
SOCMA

SOCMA is the only association focused on the unique needs of specialty, fine and batch chemical manufacturers.

### Business Meeting Topics

- Updates on SOCMA's member initiatives and resources
- Recognition of incoming board members
- Recognition of outgoing board members

8:50am-9:00am

### Networking Break

9:00am-9:45am

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS: CHOOSE YOUR TOPIC

### Option 1

#### New Market Trends: Bio-Manufacturing



**Moderator:** Cameron Whaley, Southern Chemical & Textiles



**Speaker:** Jimmy Jett, Integrity Bio-Chem



**Speaker:** Dennis Zlotnik, BioReNuva

From customer requests to investments by the federal government, the increase in biomanufacturing to create sustainable supply chains has increased year over year. Hear from customers about what's driving the boom in bio and how you can take advantage of these new opportunities.

**Key Themes:** Biomanufacturing, Market Trends, Customer Trends

### Option 2

#### Filling the Manufacturing Gap: Recruiting New Talent into Chemical Manufacturing



**Speaker:**  
Doug Wynn  
Colonial Chemical



**Speaker:**  
George M. Graham  
MFG Chemical

By 2033, nearly 2 million manufacturing jobs are projected to be left unfilled in key roles of maintenance technicians and chemical operators. Several years ago, Colonial Chemical embarked on a community college partnership program to create a pipeline and pathway for high school graduates to enter the chemical industry.

Colonial Chemical's Executive VP of Operations, Doug Wynn will share his perspective on program effectiveness, how to get started, and lessons learned on recruiting future talent. Additionally, George Graham, MFG, will provide insights into their unique approach and journey. The session will feature an engaging conversation between the panelists, with questions and discussions that highlight their different experiences and strategy.

**Key Themes:** Innovation, Workforce Development, Community Partnerships



9:45am-10:00am

## Networking Break

10:00am-11:30am

## GENERAL SESSIONS

In the closing general sessions, we will take a look at shifts in sourcing and deep dive into the results of the 2025 Contract Manufacturing Outlook survey. Both sessions will offer valuable insights into external factors that will impact North American manufacturing. Our speakers will facilitate a deeper understanding of market dynamics, trends shaping contract manufacturing, and how companies are responding to increased demand for specialty chemicals.

### Global Shifts in Sourcing Impact on North American Specialty Chemical Manufacturing



**Moderator:**  
Cameron Young,  
Weylchem US Inc



**Speaker:**  
Deepak Parikh,  
Advent International



**Speaker:**  
Joe Nettleton,  
Cambrex, Inc.



**Speaker:**  
Ross Gale  
Internation Process Plants

**Key Themes:** Sourcing, China, India, Europe

### Interpreting the Results of the 2025 Contract Manufacturing Outlook Survey



**Moderator:** Erika  
Krueger, Ortec Inc.



**Speaker:** Jose Maria  
Bermúdez, VIAKEM



**Speaker:** Jeff Barnes,  
NASI

**Key Themes:** Manufacturing Outlook Survey, Planning, Industry Outlook

11:30am

## Traveler's Lunch - Grab & Go

# ATTENDING COMPANIES

ACCI Specialty Materials  
ACMI Austin LLC  
Advent International  
Anchin  
Arclin  
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.  
Ascensus Specialties LLC  
Ascent Chemicals  
Ashland  
AVN Corporation  
Baker Hughes Company  
Barken Holdings LLC  
Berjé  
Boulder Scientific Company  
Calca Solutions, LLC  
Cambrex Corporation  
CHEM Group Inc.  
ChemDesign, Inc.  
ChemQuest Group  
CJB Industries, Inc.  
Colonial Chemical, Inc.  
Crowe LLP  
Custom Processing Services, Inc.  
Edgewater Capital Partners  
Ethox Chemicals, LLC  
FAR Chemical, Inc.  
FMI Capital Advisors  
FutureFuel Chemical Company  
Genesis Custom Chemical Blending  
Grace Matthews, Inc.  
Hampford Research, Inc.  
Huntington Bank  
Husch Blackwell LLP  
InChem Rock Hill, LLC  
Integrity BioChem  
International Process Plants & Equipment  
Iofina Chemical, Inc.  
Kel Chemicals  
Lacamas Laboratories Inc.  
Marsh & McLennan Agency  
McGean  
MFG Chemical, LLC  
Milliken & Company  
Monument Chemical, LLC  
NASi  
Nation Ford Chemical  
New York Times  
Oakwood Chemical  
Ohio Chemistry Technology Council  
Ortec, Incorporated  
Phelps Dunbar LLP  
PHT International, Inc.  
Polysciences, Inc.  
Process Industries Consultants  
ProChem, Inc.  
Quad Chemical  
Revalize  
Rockwell Automation, Inc  
Royal Chemical Company  
Seatex, LLC  
South Coast Terminals  
Southern Chemical & Textiles  
Sun Chemical Corporation  
Third Coast Terminals  
Thompson Hine LLP  
Toll Solutions, LLC  
Trecora  
VanDeMark Chemical Inc.  
Veranova  
VIAKEM  
WeylChem US Inc.  
WTS, Inc.  
Yordas Group

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