The Demise of Plastic Recycling?  
Conversion to Bio-Materials?  
New Sustainability Initiatives in Packaging & Consumer Companies?

Where Are We In All This Disruption and Change?  
Wednesday, November 14, 2018  
1 – 3 PM, Talent Hall, Room 182

As of 2016, China had been importing two-thirds of the world’s recycled plastic waste, but those imports screeched to a halt with their government’s implementation of a “Green Wall” policy and they now refuse to take recycled plastic waste that has not been carefully cleaned and sorted. Despite China’s growing use of plastic, this drastic cut in imports of recycled plastic feedstocks has plunged the recycling industry into complete turmoil.

In this timely class, plastics expert and ALL member, Jeff Timm, will update us on the drastic changes that have taken place since his last presentation about plastics recycling in 2015. In this class, Jeff will give us an overview of the critical market factors that are affecting the recycling and plastic packaging industries today. Jeff will also review the increasing constraints on petro-based hydrocarbon feedstocks and examine the potential for switching to bio-materials, a beneficial change but one that would require a substantial shift in government policies, as well as increased participation from industries and consumers in recycling and product design efforts. Additionally, key initiatives from major consumer product companies are having an impact in some consumer product segments and will be discussed. And, yes, we’ll look at the huge “island” of plastic waste floating in the Pacific.

If you have questions, please call Merrilee Unrath at 262-694-7424 or email: mleeu@wi.rr.com

Plastics Recycling Disruption  Members: $5  Guests $10  Register by Friday, Nov 1st, 2018

Name____________________________________________________________________Check #______________
Email_________________________Home phone _____________________________

Emergency contact name & phone ________________________________

Deliver cash registrations to the ALL office in Tallent Hall. Make checks payable to UW Parkside/ALL; deliver or mail to Vanessa. Credit card registration for members must be submitted online; an email with a member registration LINK will be sent around the 1st Monday each month. NO online credit card registrations can be accepted for guests. As registrations fill, members get preference signing up.  
Note: there is now $5 cancellation fee if you are unable to attend or need to request a refund.
Our Presenter, Jeff Timm

Jeff is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts and a retired independent consultant and former Business Development Executive with diverse experience with Fortune 100 companies — Dupont, Avery Dennison, and Johnson Polymer — as well as in growing global markets, both domestically and in Asia, for B2B (business-to-business) sales and marketing in the plastics, bioplastics, and adhesives industries. Jeff previously contributed to a monthly packaging blog on www.adhesives.org (the Adhesive & Sealant Council) and has been a frequent contributor to packaging trade journals including Packaging Digest.

In addition to enjoying many of ALL’s activities with Penny, his lovely wife, Jeff has been enjoying his “summer job” as an usher at Miller Park for the Milwaukee Brewers baseball team since 2011.

The Life Cycle of Bioplastics

Some bioplastics decompose in a fairly short period of time, and the full life cycle of such products is shown here. Other bioplastics aren’t biodegradable. But even in those cases, the use of plant-based raw materials means that pollution is being removed from the atmosphere while the plants grow, giving bioplastics a green appeal.

Manufacturing

Bioplastics manufacturers use pellets or granules of the compounds to make utensils, plates, cup linings, carpeting and other products.

Sources: CTC Clean Tech Consulting GmbH; WSJ reporting.