

25 - 26 March 2025

Hilton Waterfront Hotel, Vienna, Austria

Programme

08.30 - 18.00

REGISTRATION DESK OPEN

08.30 - 09.00

OPENING OF THE TABLETOP EXHIBITION & WELCOME COFFEE

09.00 - 09.15

WELCOME ADDRESS

09.15 - 10.15

KEYNOTE SPEECH



Dr.-Ing. Frank Möbius, Senior Innovation Advisor
UnternehmerTUM, Munich, Germany - Former Manager at BMW Group

OPEN INNOVATION, THE KEY TO FUTURE SUCCESS FOR YOUR COMPANY

- Why is Open Innovation a crucial success factor for any kind of industry in these challenging times?
- How does the automotive industry like BMW Group realize Open Innovation in their organization?
- What are the 10 most important steps to enhance your innovative power in the future?



10.15 - 11.00

COFFEE BREAK & VISIT OF THE TABLETOP EXHIBITION

11.00 - 12.15

SESSION 1 - TRENDS & TECHNOLOGIES



Marc Schmidt, Vice President Technologies Europe - AAF-Lufttechnik

The best is yet to come - An outlook from the filter manufacturer's perspective

- How do current social and economic megatrends change the air filter industry?
- Is the air filter industry prepared for the change?
- What does it mean for product development, marketing strategies and business models?



Thomas Heininger, Director Engineering Filtration Material - MANN+HUMMEL

From raw material over filtration material to filter elements and the wide range of applications

- How does the journey from raw material to filtration material and the filter element look like?
- What are the main impacts and influencing factors over the whole process chain?
- How the best performing filter elements can be provided by having this holistic view?



Anthony Lawson, Senior Filtration Specialist - Hengst

Regulation as the driver of innovation in filtration - How new regulations help drive the design of new filters with higher performance

- How does regulation drive changes in product design, fostering innovation in air filtration design?
- How is the changing landscape of filter media design influenced by upcoming controls on the use of PFAS substances, prompting designers to explore alternative, non-conventional technologies?
- How lower WHO guideline limits for air quality in gases have led to a fundamental redesign of filter solutions for HVAC applications to the new EN16798-3?

12.15 - 13.00

FILTREX™ 2025 INNOVATION AWARD



The FILTREX™ Innovation Award honors innovation in the filtration sector, recognizing the ongoing commitment to excellence by manufacturers of nonwoven-based filtration products and components.

The nominees are:

GESSNER – Lignin-Saturated Cellulose Filter Media



GESSNER's lignin-saturated cellulose filter media is redefining sustainable filtration by replacing fossil-based resins with renewable lignin, saving up to 100 kg of crude oil per ton of material. Ideal for engine air, oil, and fuel filters, it delivers top-tier performance with lower formaldehyde emissions during curing. Experience sustainability without compromise - achieve high-efficiency filtration, optional flame retardancy, and a tangible step towards a greener future with their lignin filter media.

Hollingsworth & Vose – NanoWave®ESA



Hollingsworth & Vose is a manufacturer of engineered materials. Their innovation NanoWave®ESA is an all-synthetic 3D media designed for high efficiency respiratory protection. Filters can be designed with minimum media processing while extending the filter life. It is free of PFAS, is safe to use, and can meet the demand for smaller and smaller filters without compromising on comfort. NanoWave®ESA can be produced with a stretch so that highly efficient, stretchable, breathable and drapable garment can be cut to size.

Johns Manville – Evalith®



Johns Manville, a Berkshire Hathaway company, and a leader in the filtration business with manufacturing lines in Europe and the US, has pioneered an innovative recycling process that converts post-industrial HVAC bio-soluble glass microfiber filtration media waste into compounded pellets for injection molding. The resulting pellets, with 30% glass fiber, are being used to create durable, second-life products. This eco-friendly solution prevents landfill waste, reduces CO₂ emissions, and supports a circular economy.

Each of the three companies will have a 10-minute slot to present its innovation. Attendees will have the opportunity to cast their votes and select the winner, with the award being presented during the evening cocktail dinner.



13.00 - 14.15

NETWORKING LUNCH

14.15-15.30

SESSION 2 - STANDARDS & TESTING



Stephan Grosse, Team Manager Marketing and Sales - Topas
Latest state-of-the art in molecular air filter testing

- Which are the requests from the standardization?
- How can these requests be realized at a technical test bench setup?
- What are the new challenges on testing fuel cell filters and molecular HVAC filters?



Tobias Zimmer, Vice President - Camfil

Upcoming EN Standard on complementary product category rules (c-PCR) for environmental product declarations (EPD) for air Filters

- What will be the c-PCR for EPD of air filters and when can they be expected?
- How will energy consumption and health benefits in the use phase of air filters be considered?
- How will it impact the requirements on air filter media?



Marina Ängeslevä, Sales and Application Specialist - Porometer

Correlations between the pore size and filtration efficiency of nonwoven filter media

- How were the pore size and filtration efficiency analysed in the presented work?
- How does the pore size of nonwoven filter media correlate with air permeability?
- What equations can describe the correlations between pore size, penetration, and resistance of woven filter media?

15.30 - 16.15

INTRODUCTIONS OF KEY PLAYERS IN THE FILTRATION INDUSTRY TO THE ROUNDTABLES

The round table discussion is included in the conference to further engage the audience in one of the central themes of the conference: 'sustainability in filtration'.

3 speakers from reputable companies will share their thoughts and approaches to this topic with the audience. After the presentations the audience will reflect, seated around the 'round tables' on the introduction, and how this relates to or inspires their own thoughts. A small set of questions will be provided to guide the discussion.



Oswaldo Anaya, Product Marketing Manager - Freudenberg Performance Materials

Sustainable filtration – what is truly good for the planet



Cédric Vallet, Head of Business Development & Product Management - Ahlstrom

How to combine innovation and sustainability in filtration



Bruce Lorange, Global Marketing (IAQ) - Hollingworth & Vose

IAQ Filtration: A call-to-action to harmonize health for people, profit, and planet



16.15 - 16.45

COFFEE BREAK & VISIT OF THE TABLETOP EXHIBITION

16.45-18.00

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS



18.30 - 21.30

NETWORKING EVENING COCKTAIL DINNER AT THE KUNSTHISTORISCHES MUSEUM



Participants will have the opportunity to network in an elegant setting while exploring the Kunsthistorisches Museum's renowned Picture Gallery in Vienna home to masterpieces by Titian, Vermeer, Rembrandt, Brueghel, and Velázquez. This gallery houses one of the most outstanding collections of European art, featuring masterpieces by iconic artists such as Titian, Vermeer, Rembrandt, Brueghel, and Velázquez.

- Shuttle buses will depart from the hotel at 18:30 and return at around 21:30
- Welcome drink starts at 19:00, followed by a buffet dinner.
- From 19:15 to 21:15, you can explore the renowned Picture Gallery
- Dress code: Business casual

08.30 - 18.00 **REGISTRATION DESK OPEN**

08.30 - 09.00 **OPENING OF THE TABLETOP EXHIBITION & WELCOME COFFEE**

09.00 - 10.00 **KEYNOTE SPEECH**



Dr. Pero Mičić
Founder and CEO at FutureManagementGroup

BRIGHT FUTURE BUSINESS: HOW TO FUTURE-PROOF YOUR BUSINESS AGAINST MAJOR DISRUPTIVE CHANGES OF THE FUTURE

- What are the eight properties of a bright future business?
- Which disruptive changes you need to adapt to and thrive on?
- Why and how you should heal fear of the future with joy for the future



10.00 - 10.40 **COFFEE BREAK & VISIT OF THE TABLETOP EXHIBITION**

10.40 - 12.00 **SESSION 3 - MEDIA INNOVATION**



Cédric Vallet, Head of Business Development & Product Management - Ahlstrom

Dual layer for extended lifetime and reduced size of air intake filters

- What are the current trends in engine air filtration market?
- What are the different types of standard air intake filter media available in the market?
- Which are the benefits for the filter manufacturers?



Christian Ewald, Vice President Global Market Segment Gas Phase Filtration - Freudenberg FT

Gas Phase Filtration: A key process to protect work environments from harmful corrosive and odorous emissions

- What are the advantages and limitations of new standards and recommendations such as ISO 10121-3 and Eurovent 4/26 – 2024?
- Which additional information are needed to achieve a safe work environment and an excellent protection against corrosion?
- How to choose the filtration solution with the best cost-performance ratio and to calculate filter lifetimes most accurately?



Christof Keppler, VP Innovation & New Business Development - Neenah Gessner

Automotive filter media with reduced carbon footprint

- Product Carbon Footprint (PCF) – why does it matter for automotive filter media?
 - What needs to be done to determine the PCF of a filter media? What are the main contributors to the PCF of a filter media?
 - How can the PCF of filter media be reduced? What impact does the reduction of PCF on the performance and the cost structure of those filter media?
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12.00 - 13.15

NETWORKING LUNCH

13.15 - 14.30

SESSION 4 - SUSTAINABILITY



Mood Ahmed, R&D Project Manager - Beaulieu Fibers International

Fibers that build futures: Innovative sustainable fiber solutions for filter media

- What are the new trends in sustainability within the filtration industry?
 - Which sustainable alternative fiber are available?
 - What benefits do sustainable synthetic fiber offer?
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Christopher Griffin, Director, Sustainability and Innovation - Johns Manville

Recycling and circular use of waste filters and filtration media

- How can we avoid landfilling waste from filter media manufacturing?
 - How can we re-use waste from manufacturing filters?
 - Is there a circular opportunity to recycle end of life filters?
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Umüt Burak Dalbudak, Co-Founder - Texnova Tekstil

Development of a biodegradable dust filter using biodegradable PET and BicoPET mono-material with sustainable needlepunching production method

- What are the key advantages of using biodegradable PET and bicoPET mono-materials in dust filtration applications, and how do they address current environmental challenges?
 - How does the needle punching production method enhance the sustainability and performance of the proposed biodegradable coarse dust filter compared to traditional methods?
 - In what ways does the integration of biodegradable binders and chemical coatings contribute to improving the filtration efficiency, durability, and environmental impact of the final product?
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14.30 - 15.00

COFFEE BREAK & VISIT OF THE TABLETOP EXHIBITION

15.00 - 16.15

SESSION 5 - GOING PFAS FREE



Björn Strelau, Director Global Product Management - Hollingsworth & Vose

HEPA filtration media with zero added PFAS for a cleaner world

- Why does the widespread use of Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in HEPA filtration represent a problem?
- How can a new range of HEPA efficiency glass filtration media, with zero added PFAS, help support sustainability efforts of companies by eliminating the use of forever chemicals in various applications?
- How does this new HEPA efficiency glass filtration media perform compared to traditional solutions?



Dorothea Slevogt, Senior Consulting Specialist - Schlegel und partner

Navigating PFAS restrictions: Roadmap, industry impact, and emerging solutions for filtration

- What is the expected roadmap for the PFAS restrictions in Europe?
- How will PFAS restrictions change the filtration industry along the value chain?
- What are the related market expectations and solutions in development for filters and its media?



Josh Manasco, Director of Application and Business Development - Elmarco

Greener membranes from electrospinning

- How do electrospun membranes enhance performance in filtration and textile applications compared to conventional materials?
- What are the key benefits of using PFAs-free and non-REACH-listed solvents in nanofiber membrane production?
- How can sustainable nanofiber membranes contribute to reducing energy consumption and environmental impact in industrial processes?

16.15 - 16.20

CLOSING WORDS



**16.20 - 17.30
GOODBYE DRINK**

All presentations and moderated sessions will be held in English.

This programme may be subject to last-minute changes and cancellations. All timings are approximate and may be subject to change due to unforeseen delays or adjustments.

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