



AGENDA

Sunday, Feb. 19

4:00pm - 7:00pm **Registration Open**, Indigo North Foyer, Lobby Level

Monday, Feb. 20

7:00am – 7:00 pm **Registration Open**, Indigo North Foyer, Lobby Level

7:00am – 3:30pm **Annual NEC Golf Tournament**, Maderas Golf Club
sponsored by Eco-Energy, Inc.

9:00am – 3:00pm **Networking Day Tour – USS Midway (sold out)**

4:30pm – 6:00pm **RFA PAC Auction** (RFA Members Only), Indigo 202A

6:00pm – 7:30pm **Welcome Reception**, Indigo West Foyer/Terrace
sponsored by Fagen, Inc.

Tuesday, Feb. 21

6:30am – 6:00pm **Registration Open**, Indigo North Foyer, Lobby Level

7:00am – 8:00am **Continental Breakfast**, Indigo West Foyer
sponsored by CoBank and Farm Credit Services of America

8:00am- 8:10am **Welcome Remarks**, Indigo Ballroom
Mick Henderson, General Manager, Commonwealth Agri-Energy, LLC and Chairman, Renewable Fuels Association

8:10am – 8:45am **State of the Industry Address**, Indigo Ballroom
Bob Dinneen, President and CEO, Renewable Fuels Association

8:45am – 9:15am **Keynote Address**, Indigo Ballroom

9:15am – 10:15am **Future of Fuels Policy Discussion**, Indigo Ballroom

Moving the conversation beyond today's policy battles, we will foster a frank dialogue among sometimes competing stakeholders in the fuel production and marketing sectors. Topics for discussion will include the potential for high octane/low carbon fuels, state low carbon fuel programs, electric vehicles, CAFE standards, global climate initiatives, and the regulatory landscape for petroleum and natural gas extraction.

Moderator: Bob Dinneen, President and CEO, Renewable Fuels Association
Chet Thompson, President, American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers
Marty Durbin, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer, American Petroleum Institute

10:15am – 10:45am **Refreshment Break**, Indigo West Foyer
sponsored by Faegre Baker Daniels LLP

10:15am – 10:45am **NEC Tech Connect Theater**, Indigo 202A
"The Buzz on Big Data: Driving Plant Profitability through Better Data Management"

Ethanol plants are data driven operations. The industry is on the cusp of realizing the power of better data management to save time, optimize production and build on the bottom line. Join Novozymes to learn how we are helping the plants that we work with get it right. Hear about potential next steps that you can take in your big data journey, including best practices, overcoming obstacles and the true benefits of centralized, streamlined data collection and analysis.

Laurie Duval, Senior Manager, Technical Service, Novozymes

10:45am – 12:15pm **Paving the Road to a High Octane, Low Carbon Future**, Indigo Ballroom

Automakers, DOE scientists, and other experts agree that octane is the key to enabling greater efficiency and reduced emissions in the internal combustion engines of the future. This panel will discuss the benefits of high octane low carbon fuels, and examine the hurdles to broad commercialization in the future.

Moderator: Geoff Cooper, Senior Vice President, Renewable Fuels Association

David McShane, EVP Business Development and Strategy, Ricardo

Jim Szybist, Senior Research Staff, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Jim Anderson, Technical Expert in Fuel Science, Research & Advanced Engineering, Ford Motor Company

12:30pm – 2:00pm **Luncheon Address**, Sapphire Ballroom
Ari Fleischer, Former White House Press Secretary
sponsored by State Corn Growers Organizations

2:00pm – 2:30pm **NEC Tech Connect Theater**, Indigo 202A
“How New Cellulosic Technology Can Help Grow Demand for Ethanol”

Cellerate™ process technology converts corn kernel fiber into cellulosic ethanol. Developed at Quad County Corn Processors (QCCP) in Galva, Iowa, Cellerate is collaboration between Syngenta and Cellulosic Ethanol Technologies, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of QCCP. Cellerate can help a dry grind ethanol plant produce more ethanol from an existing asset base, increase total yield of distillers corn oil and improve the protein content of feed co-products.

Dr. Miloud Araba, Head of Enogen Technical Services, Syngenta

2:15pm – 3:30pm **Understanding Gasoline Markets and Ethanol Considerations**, Indigo Ballroom

The demographics of those that own fuel stations continues to evolve, and those owners have many considerations when making significant changes to fuel offerings. From regulatory hurdles, equipment replacement timelines, financial incentives and long term strategies, the move to higher ethanol blends must fit strategically. This panel will discuss all aspects and explain why some retailers have embraced with open arms, while others remain on the sidelines.

Moderator: Robert White, Vice President of Industry Relations, Renewable Fuels Association

Ryan McNutt, CEO, Society of Independent Gasoline Marketers of America (SIGMA)

Jimm Cross, Petroleum Marketers Association of America (PMAA) Western Region Chairman and President, Cross Petroleum

John Eichberger, Executive Director, Fuels Institute

Rick Long, General Manager & Associate General Counsel, Petroleum Equipment Institute (PEI)

3:00pm – 3:30pm **NEC Tech Connect Theater**, Indigo 202A
“SPEZYME® HT – Next generation amylase in superior liquefaction performance”

DuPont Industrial Biosciences provides solutions to derive maximum value from agricultural feedstocks and unlock the full potential of the biorefinery and its value streams. SPEZYME® HT is the latest breakthrough in DuPont’s ongoing amylase discovery and engineering effort specifically targeted at improved viscosity and solubility under stress conditions.

Stephanie Gleason, Regional Application Development Leader, DuPont Industrial Biosciences

3:30pm – 4:00pm **Refreshment Break**, Indigo West Foyer
sponsored by Genscape, Inc.

4:00pm – 5:15pm **Perspectives on the RFS and the Point of Obligation**, Indigo Ballroom

Panelists will present their views regarding the ongoing debate about the Point of Obligation under the RFS, and the potential impacts of such a change on the effectiveness of the RFS and volatility in the RIN market.

Moderator: Neil Koehler, Co-Founder, Director and Chief Executive Officer, Pacific Ethanol, Inc.

Richard Walsh, SVP & Deputy General Counsel, Valero Renewable Fuels Company LLC

Tim Columbus, Attorney, Steptoe & Johnson, LLP

5:30pm – 7:00pm **Networking Reception**, Promenade Plaza
sponsored by OpenLink and CTE-Global

Wednesday, Feb. 22

6:30am – 12:00pm **Registration Open**, Indigo North Foyer, Lobby Level

7:00am – 8:00am **Continental Breakfast**, Indigo West Foyer
sponsored by CHS, Inc.

8:00am – 8:15am **RFA 2017 Industry Award Presentation**, Indigo Ballroom

8:15am – 9:15am **Agriculture Working Together to Move Rural America Forward**, Indigo Ballroom

A free-wheeling conversation about the current state of the farm economy, the policy impact of historic surpluses, and moving past food versus fuel. Can we rebuild relationships with animal agriculture?

Moderator: Bob Dinneen, President and CEO, Renewable Fuels Association

Chris Novak, CEO, National Corn Growers Association

Randy Spronk, Managing Partner, Spronk Brothers III LLP and past president, National Pork Producers Council

9:15am – 9:40am **Global Demand Drivers and Trends Fueling Ethanol Growth**, Indigo Ballroom

Ethanol exports continue to serve as a valuable and continuously expanding revenue source for the U.S. ethanol industry. This presentation will provide an in-depth look at the current market trends associated with global trade in ethanol, and the key factors driving the demand for ethanol around the globe, including low-carbon initiatives, octane demand, efforts to replace MTBE and monetizing carbon.

Scott Richman, Senior Vice President, Informa Economics

9:40am – 10:00am **Learning How The Export-Import Bank Can Help Your Export Business**, Indigo Ballroom

This session will introduce attendees to the Export Import Bank of the United States (EXIM), which provides help to exporters in filling financing gaps and managing export risks through its loan, guarantee, and insurance programs when the private sector is unable or unwilling to do so.

Sandra Donzella, Deputy Managing Director, Export-Import Bank of the U.S. - Western Region

10:00am – 10:20am **Refreshment Break**, Indigo West Foyer
sponsored by Vertex Railcar Corporation

10:20am – 11:15am **Opportunities for Ethanol Export in Target Markets**, Indigo Ballroom

In connection with this year's International Buyer Program, experts will address the top global markets participating in the program and outline export opportunities that exist there now and in the near future. Panelists will provide detailed information concerning each country's fuel market, its domestic biofuel policies and the current trends and forecasts for ethanol trade with these markets.

Moderator: Ed Hubbard, General Counsel, Renewable Fuels Association

Ryan LeGrand, Mexico Director, U.S. Grains Council

Amit Sachdev, Country Representative/Consultant, U.S. Grains Council

Eric Olson, Commercial Officer & Senior International Trade Specialist, U.S. Commercial Service

Josh Pedrick, Ethanol Reporter, S&P Global Platts

11:15am – 12:00pm **Navigating the Media Maelstrom**, Indigo Ballroom

It seems as though ethanol gets far more than its fair share of media coverage—and most of it is negative. Why? How can the industry do a better job getting our message out? In this session, reporters will discuss energy coverage and outline how to give a good interview, conduct local media outreach, use social media and avoid common pitfalls.

Moderator: Rachel Gantz, Communications Director, Renewable Fuels Association

Jerry Hagstrom, Founder and Executive Editor, The Hagstrom Report

Amy Harder, Reporter, Wall Street Journal

Todd Neeley, Staff Reporter, DTN/The Progressive Farmer

12:00pm **Closing Remarks**, Indigo Ballroom
Bob Dinneen, President and CEO, Renewable Fuels Association

12:00pm -5:00pm **International Matchmaking and Networking**
International Trade Center, Indigo D