

10/18/23



## **Microbiology Program “Blurred Lines: Collaboration Beyond the Lab”**

October 24, 2023

**Moderator: Andress Johnson, Thor Specialties & Kathleen Stanton, PCPC**

- 8:30 – 8:40     **Opening Remarks**  
Alexandra Kowcz, PCPC
- 8:40 – 9:25     **MoCRA**  
Linda Katz, FDA
- 9:25 – 10:10   **Training the Next Generation of Microbiologists: Collaboration is Key**  
Michael Loewenstein, Q Labs LLC
- Discover a new paradigm in training microbiologists as PCPC leads the way in fostering collaboration between experts and academia. This efficient approach empowers the next generation of microbiologists to ensure high microbial integrity from day one, reducing the risk of product recalls in the industry.
- 10:10 – 10:40   **Break**  
Visit Exhibit Hall
- 10:40 – 11:25   **Small Talk: Translating the Language of Microbiology to a Wider Audience**  
Irina Agro, Ashland
- Unlock effective cross-departmental communication using principles from social psychology and managerial training to amplify the importance of microbiology in safeguarding product integrity and consumer safety throughout the development process, spanning from R&D to production.
- 11:25 – 12:10   **Creating, Maintaining and Improving Supplier Relationships as the Brand Owner**  
Geoff Waby, Obelis USA
- Discover the vital role of supplier partnerships in the cosmetics business, as Geoff Waby shares essential insights on how to create successful collaborations. Learn about qualifying suppliers, measuring performance, and leveraging the interdependence between brand owners and third-party providers to launch products effectively.
- 12:10 – 1:30    **Lunch**
- 1:30 – 2:15     **The Power of Partnership: Fueling Innovation and Speed to Market through Contract Collaboration**  
Leigh Farris, Elevation Labs

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Partnering with a skilled Contract Manufacturer can enhance a brand's Innovation Pipeline, hasten market entry, and drive growth. This session covers crucial aspects including specialized development, production capabilities, and supply chain factors, aiming to offer practical insights for selecting and collaborating with Contract Manufacturers to create and deliver innovative products to end consumers.

2:15 – 3:00 **Refillable and Reusable Dispensers: Bacterial Contamination and Risk Assessment**

Charles Gerba, University of Arizona

Explores health risks tied to refillable bulk-soap dispensers, highlighting their potential to harbor and transfer pathogenic bacteria, raising infection concerns for users. It also covers a conducted risk assessment focused on eye infections resulting from using contaminated soap dispensers before wearing contact lenses.

3:00 – 3:30 **Break**

Visit Exhibit Hall

3:30 – 4:15 **New Methods of Delivering Ingredients that Resist Microbial Contamination**

Laura Frazier, Taiki Beauty

Discover the latest formats resisting contamination in the cosmetics industry, addressing consumer safety concerns. Explore the market's preservative-free offerings and the rigorous testing ensuring product integrity.

4:15 – 4:30 **PCPC Early Career Microbiologist Award**

Kathleen Stanton, PCPC

4:30 – 4:45 **Closing Remarks**

Sabrina Behnke, Tri-K Industries Inc & Dennis Neeson, Colgate-Palmolive Company

6:00 – 7:00 **Reception**

Ballroom Foyer