



virtuAIChE®

*This month's meeting:*

*Primary (with live discussion/live chat) Wednesday, August 23 at 9 pm ET (US) / 1 am GMT*

*Alternate 1 (with live discussion/live chat) Thursday, August 24 at 7 am ET (US) / 11 am GMT*

*Alternate 2 (with live discussion/live chat) Thursday, August 24 at 1 pm ET (US) / 5 pm GMT*

## How to Commercialize Innovative Ideas

**By: Christina Lomasney**

Learn how to commercialize your innovative ideas from Christina Lomasney, a physicist with a deep background in materials science and electrochemistry.



Christina Lomasney is a physicist with a deep background in materials science and electrochemistry. During graduate school, Lomasney co-founded Isotron and led the company to profitability while realizing a portfolio of advanced materials for environmental remediation and nuclear, biological, and chemical defense. In 2007, Lomasney co-founded Modumetal, Inc., a Seattle-based company that develops and commercializes a novel class of nanostructured materials that resist corrosion better than steel. Presently, Lomasney is Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's Director of Commercialization, and works toward increasing U.S. economic competitiveness and national security outcomes through deployment of technology developed at PNNL.

***All VLS meetings are free to attend and open to all, but registration is required.***

### August Meeting Registration Information

#### **Primary**

(Live Presentation/Live Chat)  
August 23 at 9 PM ET (US)/ 1 AM  
GMT

Register in advance for the  
[Primary Meeting](#)

#### **Alternate 1**

(Recorded Presentation/Live Chat)  
August 24 at 7 AM ET (US) / 11 AM  
GMT

Register in advance for the  
[Alternate 1 Meeting](#)

#### **Alternate 2**

(Recorded Presentation/Live Chat)  
August 24 at 1 PM ET (US) / 5 PM  
GMT

Register in advance for the  
[Alternate 2 Meeting](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing instructions for joining the meeting, along with add-to-calendar links.

## Introducing Our June Meeting Raffle Winner!

Every month, a dues-paying member who signed in for the duration of the monthly webinar is selected at random to win a free year of VLS membership (Executive Committee members and previous winners during the current year are ineligible). We are pleased to introduce our June winner – Dan Pinkham, Jr.



### **Q: What made you want to be a chemical engineer?**

**A:** I think I was in 4<sup>th</sup> grade in my home state of Maine, and we had an assignment to write a company for information about what they do. For whatever reason, I wrote to Phillips 66 and received a pamphlet titled something like “The wonderful world of petrochemicals”. That must have planted a seed.

I was a good student and enjoyed math and science in high school so engineering seemed to be a career path where I could put that to work. To validate my interest, I attended two summer camps after my junior year in high school. One was 3 weeks long at Bowdoin College sponsored by the State of Maine in the Humanities. The other was a weeklong session - what was then known as The Maine Summer Juniors Program - sponsored by The University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation at UMaine. The fit became very clear for me after attending both programs and the chemical engineering aspects of the second program seemed most interesting to me.

### **Q: What school(s) did you attend?**

**A:** I went to UMaine for my BS in Chemical Engineering. Shortly thereafter, I began taking prerequisites for an MBA in the University of Maine System. After a transfer, I attended Marshall University in West Virginia where I received a Masters in Business Administration to help prepare me for leading and managing organizations.

### **Q: What kind of jobs have you had?**

**A:** I started out as a process engineer with FMC Corp. in Rockland Maine working with seaweed extracts – they have changed ownership a few times and are now part of IF&F. I transferred with FMC to their South Charleston WV hydrogen peroxide plant. I led a small group in process engineering to begin with and then moved into safety and process safety and was part of a first of its kind pilot effort in the Kanawha Valley of 14 chemical plants to model and share release scenarios with the public as part of US EPA’s RMP program. I moved down the road a few miles to FMC’s phosphorous flame retardants plant in Nitro WV as a senior process engineer. That facility was purchased by Great Lakes Chemical Corporation (GLCC is now part of LANXESS) which led to a transfer to their El Dorado AR bromine-based flame retardant locations as a senior production engineer in BPA-analog retardants, then to production manager for bromine, and finally to operations manager for specialty flame retardants.

After GLCC went through a merger with Crompton, I made the jump to a corporate six sigma process improvement role in the Engineered Products Group of Johns Manville, based in Denver while supporting fiberglass manufacturing locations in the US, Germany, Sweden, and Slovakia. After a couple of years, I joined Compass Minerals, a salt and fertilizer mining company in Overland Park KS to lead their continuous improvement efforts, serving for close to 10 years as Director of Operational Excellence and then returning to EHS as Direct of Health and Safety for two years. Compass has sites in the US, Canada, and the UK and briefly owned an ag chemicals business in Brazil.

For the last four years, I have been an independent consultant with my company Lakehurst Consulting, working in project management and process improvement with small- to mid-sized companies and now have experience in food machinery manufacturing, aerospace, defense, private equity, hospitality, insurance, and medical device manufacturing. A chemical engineering education has served as a solid base for all my work.

**Q: Where do you live?**

**A:** My family is now based outside of Hannibal MO where my wife, another CHE/MBA combo, leads a large ag products facility. Our oldest daughter recently graduated with her CHE degree from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology and is working for a large pharma firm in Indianapolis. Our youngest daughter is mid-way through a biomedical engineering program at Saint Louis University. One of the benefits of being a consultant is you can work from anywhere as long as you can connect to the internet and get to an airport.

**Q: Why did you join the Virtual Local Section?**

**A:** Even before our relocation a couple of years ago, I had attended the VLS meetings. As a management consultant with a more general practice, it helps keep me rooted in what is going on in the chemical industry. It's a convenient way to stay connected professionally and socially. In fact, during the last VLS, I had the pleasure of private chatting with one of my former co-workers from my time in AR who is now on the east coast.

**Q: Any hobbies that are connected to chemical engineering**

**A:** Nothing directly connected to chemical engineering although I have played in bass in rock bands in 5 of the 6 states I have lived in so far and I am looking to make it 6 in Missouri.

## Opportunities to serve on the AIChE Virtual Local Section's Leadership Team

Steve Treese

The Virtual Local Section (VLS) of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) serves over a thousand chemical engineers worldwide, providing thoughtful programming with an opportunity for ongoing professional contacts. Our section's success happens because of volunteers, such as hosting and advertising the monthly meetings, providing continuing education credits, surveying, and responding to member preferences, orienting new members, holding a student competition, and distributing a newsletter.

The rewards of volunteering in VLS leadership well outweigh the time spent! Honing your soft skills, forming friendships with other leaders, and staying abreast of communication technology changes are just some of the pluses.

This year we will be electing a vice chair, senior vice chair, secretary, and two directors. The chair sequence is four years long, while serving as secretary is a two-year commitment and director terms last three years. Candidates must be a current dues-paying member to serve.

Please contact Steve Treese at [streese2560@gmail.com](mailto:streese2560@gmail.com) or Fred Fischl at [fkfischl@comcast.net](mailto:fkfischl@comcast.net) if you have any questions or if you have an interest in serving on this remarkable team. My thanks and we look forward to hearing from you!

## 2023 Intern and Co-op Presentation Competition: Save the Date

The 2023 Intern and Co-op Presentation Competition will be our October meeting. The timeline follows:

- 10/2/2023 - Abstracts due
- 10/9/2023 - Students notified of acceptance
- 10/16/2023 - Presentations due
- 10/19/2023 - "Dry run" to test Zoom connections/audio/video
- 10/25/2023 - Competition

Submit questions to Marc Clithero, Competition Chair, at [marc.clithero@btinternet.com](mailto:marc.clithero@btinternet.com).

To submit an abstract go to <https://www.aiche.org/community/sites/local-sections/virtual-local-section/forms/2023-intern-and-co-op-presentation-competition-abstract-submission-form>

## AIChE News

The AIChE hosts technical conferences around the world. Check [www.aiche.org/conferences](http://www.aiche.org/conferences) for registration and presentation information for this year's events.

Dates	Event
Sep 4-7	2023 DIERS Fall Meeting
Sep 6-8	8 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on Accelerating Biopharmaceutical Development (AccBio 2023)
Sep 7	8 <sup>th</sup> CCPS Canadian Regional Meeting
Sep 11-13	The Chemical Hazards Engineering Fundamentals (CHEF) Overview and The Risk Analysis Screening Tool (RAST) Workshop
Sep 12	CCPS Pharma, Food, and Fine Chemicals Meeting, September 2023
Sep 14	2023 CCPS Europe Regional Meeting
Sep 17-19	6 <sup>th</sup> Commercializing Industrial Biotechnology
Sep 19-21	International Congress on Sustainability Science & Engineering (ICOSSE '23)
Sep 20	September 2023 TSC Meeting
Sep 26-28	International Congress on Particle Technology
Sep 26-27	2023 Chemical Ventures Conference
Oct 3-4	2023 Industry 4.0: Digital Transformation Conference (IDTC23)
Oct 4	CCPS South East Asia Regional Meeting
Oct 4	CCPS Virtual Trinidad & Tobago Meeting
Oct 17-18	2023 Ethylene Middle East Technology Conference (EMET)
Oct 17-19	6 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on CRISPR Technologies
Oct 18	CCPS and DNV Present Process Safety in Africa
Oct 19	CCPS Latin America Regional Meeting
Oct 22-24	2023 AfroBiotech Conference
Oct 24-25	2023 Global Conference on Process Safety and Big Data
Oct 24-25	2023 Diversity and Equity Accelerator through Learning for Startups
Oct 24-26	2023 OTC Brazil

## Upcoming VLS Meetings

The VLS has monthly meetings. The following meetings have firm dates and speakers.

Dates	Topic
Aug 23-24	How to Commercialize Innovative Ideas
Sep 27-28	ChatGPT and AI
Oct 25-26	Student Competition
Nov 15-16	Fusion
Dec 13-14	Holiday Social

## Past VLS Meetings

The VLS records its monthly meetings and archives them on the AIChE Academy website in case you missed a meeting or are looking for a particular topic. See below for current recordings. To view a recording as a VLS member, click on the link to go to the recording. Checkout and use the “Purchase with Money” option. The cost should show as \$0.00. Purchase the recording.

Date	Event
Jul 2023	<a href="#">Creating a Sustainable Lifecycle for Chemical Manufacturing Plants</a>
Jun 2023	<a href="#">LA100 Roadmap: LA's Path to 100% Carbon Free Energy by 2035</a>
May 2023	<a href="#">Higher Goals, Lower Emissions: Recharging the Chemical Industry</a> [only until Nov. 2023]
Apr 2023	<a href="#">Engineering Ethics: Challenges for Innovation and Society</a>
Mar 2023	<a href="#">Alternatives to Toxic Substances</a>
Feb 2023	<a href="#">Introduction to an Atmospheric Radiation Model</a>
Jan 2023	<a href="#">Applied Thermodynamics for CO2 Capture</a>
Nov 2022	<a href="#">Modeling and Digital Twins for Process Development</a>
Oct 2022	<a href="#">Decarbonization of Chemical Manufacturing by CO2 Electrolysis</a>
Sep 2022	<a href="#">Anaerobic Digestion: Sustainability through Organic Waste Management</a>
Aug 2022	<a href="#">Boost Green and Sustainable Chemical Development with AI</a>
Jul 2022	<a href="#">The TurboPy Approach to Learning Python</a>
Jun 2022	<a href="#">Automation Cybersecurity: Connectivity's Double-Edged Sword</a>
May 2022	<a href="#">Evaluating our Assumptions: The Need for Diverse Perspectives</a>
Apr 2022	<a href="#">Lessons on Incident Investigations</a>
Mar 2022	<a href="#">Converting CO<sub>2</sub> into useful products?? What's up with that??</a>
Feb 2022	<a href="#">2022 Student Co-Op and Internship Competition hosted by Noah Meeks</a>
Jan 2022	<a href="#">Biomimicry: Green Chemistry Innovations Inspired by Nature</a>
Nov 2021	<a href="#">Reimagining Energy and the Case for Greening Companies</a>
Oct 2021	<a href="#">Don't Wake Sleeping Dragons: Managing Often-Overlooked Ignition Hazards</a>
Sep 2021	<a href="#">Beyond Unconscious Bias Training: What Works?</a>
Aug 2021	<a href="#">How can nuclear energy help fight climate change?</a>
Jul 2021	<a href="#">Automation of Process Simulation and Data Analytics with MATLAB</a>
earlier meetings	<a href="https://www.aiche.org/node/140121/redux-events">https://www.aiche.org/node/140121/redux-events</a>

## The Virtual Local Section's Executive Committee

### Officers

Chair:	Fred Fischl
Senior Vice Chair:	Charlie Brown
Vice Chair Pro Tem:	Arokiaraj Alphones
Immediate Past Chair:	Steve Treese
Secretary:	Laura Gimpelson
Treasurer:	Jacob Matthews

### Directors

Member Care	Andrew Riederer
Programming	Kirsten Rosselot
Newsletter	Shannon Brown
Member Feedback	Dhananjay Ghonasgi
Publicity/Website	Paul Adamson
Student Competition	Marc Clithero

Contact info for VLS leadership:

<https://www.aiche.org/community/sites/local-sections/virtual-local-section/leadership>

## Did You Know?

You can visit [the VLS website](#) for more information on the Virtual Local Section's mission, activities, and membership. Also at this website, AIChE student members and VLS members can watch previous webinars for free.

## Subscription Information

Current fully paid members of the Virtual Local Section receive this newsletter. If you wish to update your email address, contact the AIChE's New York Office for Permanent Address Corrections at [xpress@aiiche.org](mailto:xpress@aiiche.org) or 1-800-242-4363.

## Continuing Education Credits

Members of AIChE can receive 1 hour of continuing education/professional development credit for attending Virtual Local Section webinars. Send your name, the certificate number on your professional engineer's license, and the licensing entity (state or country) in which you are licensed to our Secretary, Laura Gimpelson (at [lg\\_environmental@bellsouth.net](mailto:lg_environmental@bellsouth.net)), to receive one hour of continuing education credit for attending this meeting.