

BEMA Convention 2022

Workforce Edition - Daily Agenda



10:00am - 11:00am PT

Food Safety Culture for Senior Leaders Peg Ray (AIB)

This session will help the senior leader better understand how they can impact food safety culture in their facilities.

With a wide experience in the food industry, Peg Ray joined AIB International in 1989 and has played a part in the company's inspecting, training, writing, and assessing programs, procedures, and facility operations. She is currently a Senior Manager of Product Development & Innovation. Prior to joining AIB International, Peg worked in the food industry as manager in the fields of sanitation, quality, and operations. Ms. Ray holds a BS in Food Science from Michigan State University.

11:30am- 12:30pm PT

Human Resources: A Real-Time Conversation Emily Bowers, SHRM-SCP, CAE (BEMA)

Let's turn those cameras on a chat! The most useful sessions are collaborative and conversational. Workforce is a hot topic in every industry, and we know the baking industry is feeling the pressure.

What are the implications of the current state of the workforce? Who is implementing transformational workplace solutions? How are your teams responding? Bottom line, are your initiatives making a difference?

Vice President of Education & Operations for BEMA, Emily serves the baking industry as a subject matter expert on talent management and continuing professional education. Prior to joining the non-profit sector, she served in manufacturing operations and public education. She has multi-industry experience as a performance consultant and has managed the organizational development function for a global manufacturer of packaging solutions. Ms. Bowers has earned several certifications, including the SHRM-SCP, CAE, as well as a Bachelor's degree in Elementary and Early Childhood Education from Northwest Missouri State University and a Master's degree in Curriculum Development from Baker University.

**Have questions? Contact us at
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1:00pm- 2:00pm PT

Automation: Robots in the Workforce

Rick Gessler, Vice President of Engineering (Delkor)

Advancements in robotics and automation are enabling bakeries to automate their processes with a high degree of flexibility. This flexibility is enabling investment in automation where it was previously cost-prohibitive or complex. Rick will show practical examples of how to implement robots in your operation and how a single packaging line can take the place of what was previously multiple lines. He will also demonstrate how modular scalable robotic systems can grow with your operation over time, enabling entry into the world of automation at affordable price points without capping future speeds or capabilities. Rick will offer insights and ideas to help you to recognize opportunities for automation as well as offering real-world examples of success stories that others have experienced, including how to satisfy the retailers by creating a system that can provide a full range of packaging formats.

Rick Gessler is Vice President of Engineering at Delkor Systems, a leading U.S. manufacturer of advanced robotic packaging systems. Delkor is the automation partner for a wide spectrum of companies in the bakery, food, beverage, and consumer product markets. In his role at Delkor, Rick has led a multi-year development effort to align robotic equipment design with the ever-changing packaging requirements of today's mass merchandisers and e-commerce retailers.

Rick has over 20 years of experience in the packaging industry and is a graduate of the University of St. Thomas (MBA) and Minnesota State University (Mechanical Engineering).

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