



Conference Agenda

FOOD HYDROCOLLOIDS 2026
April 26-28, 2026 Westin Hotel, Valencia, Spain

Proud Sponsors:

Gold-Benefit Ocean & Ingredion
Silver – Gelatin Representatives of the World (GROW)

SUNDAY APRIL 26, 2026		
6:00 -8:00 P.M. Registration & Cocktails – Westin Hotel		
MONDAY April 27, 2026		
TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
8:00	Registration, Breakfast	
9:00	Welcome & Conference Overview/ Faces & Places	Nesha Zalesny/Dennis Seisun
9:45	Ingredion (1) “Texturizing Food for Preference – Ingredion’s Approach and Winning Aspiration”	Jim Zallie (Keynote Speaker)
10:30	Refreshment Break	
11:15	IMR International LLC (2) “Hydrocolloid Market Overview”	Nesha Zalesny
11:45	The Food Truth Project (3) “The Misinformation Machine - How Myths Spread and What can be done about it”	Veronica Jaramillo
12:15	Roundtable Luncheon	
1:45	Ashland (4) “Methyl Cellulose - UPF's - Addressing Misconceptions - Amplifying Industry Voices”	Margie Best
2:15	Azelis (5) “Hydrocolloid Distribution - Innovation Through Formulation in EMEA”	Markus Matuschek
2:45	Refreshment Break	
3:15	Bright Moon Seaweed Group (6) “Alginate: Enabling Sustainable and Multifunctional Solutions for Food Innovation”	Demeng Zhang
3:45	Panel Discussion “Addressing Consumer Perceptions”	Panel from Audience
4:15	Close of Day 1	
5:00	Meet in hotel lobby 5:30PM – Banquet Dinner El Tancat de la Albufera (short boat ride involved)e – Return to Hotel by 10:30pm	



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TUESDAY April 28, 2026		
TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
8:00	Breakfast	
9:00	Cargill (7) <i>“Meeting EU Regulations - Past and Future”</i>	Xavier Martin
9:30	Haribo-Rigó (8) <i>“Hydrocolloids at Haribo - Now and The Future”</i>	Conrad Fessler
10:00	Pascual (9) <i>“Hydrocolloids at the Crossroads - Functionality, Sustainability & Sensory Innovation”</i>	Alejandro Gonzalez Navech
10:30	Refreshment Break	
11:15	IFF (10) <i>“Hydrocolloid Interactions – Addressing Fat Reduction and Protein Challenges in LATAM.”</i>	Maria Luiza Teixeira
11:45	Danone (11) <i>“Danone - Moving from resilient to anti-fragile supply chains”</i>	Pauline Marcelli Vincent Nguyen
12:15	Roundtable Luncheon	
1:45	Keller and Heckman LLP (12) <i>“Hot Topics in the Regulatory Scenario EU-UK. Case Studies”</i>	Luca Galizia
2:15	ICL (13) <i>“Importance of Sustainable Procurement Practices in Transformation of Agro Food Systems”</i>	Svjetlana Jerkovic
2:45	Brief Break	
3:15	Nestle (14) <i>“Exploring New Natural Hydrocolloids for Future Pet Food Applications”</i>	Mathilde Maheas
3:45	IMR International LLC (15) <i>“Conference Summary- Hydrocolloid Trivia Contest Euro 300 in cash prizes”</i>	Dennis Seisun Nesha Zalesny
4:15	End of Conference	