



Meeting WET Test Challenges

A workshop presented by the
Wisconsin Cheese Makers Assn
Technology Committee

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 22, 2025

In-person at Agropur Headquarters, 3500 East Destination Drive, Appleton, WI and Live Online.

Agenda

- 9:30 a.m. **Arrive at Agropur/Networking**
- 10:00 a.m. **Opening Remarks/Introductions**
John Umhoefer, Executive Director, Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association
- 10:10 a.m. **WET Test Overview, Current Challenges, the TRE and TIE Process**
Patrick Poirier, Owner, and Katie Wormer, Lab Supervisor, ECT (Environmental Consulting & Testing Inc.)
- 10:45 a.m. **WET Test Perspectives from the Wis. Department of Natural Resources**
Kari Fleming, WET Program Coordinator, WDNR
Laura Gerold, Wastewater Compliance Engineer, WDNR
- 11:15 a.m. **Causes of WET Test Failures with an Emphasis on Analyzing Effluents**
Chris Hatch, Director of Biotechnologies and Engineering, ChemtronRiverbend
- 11:45 a.m. **Causes of WET Test Failures with an Emphasis on Process Chemicals**
Dr. Cliff Lange, Director and Principal, Effluency, LLC
- 12:30 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. **Steps to Navigate a TRE from Failure to Success: Dairy Processor Perspectives**
Matt Krueger, Corporate Environmental Manager, BelGioioso Cheese Inc.
Ted Winkelman, Environmental Director, Agropur
- 1:45 p.m. **Roundtable: Solutions to Avoid WET Test Failures/Solving Toxicity Problems**
All speakers and attendee participation; moderated by Chris Hatch
- 2:45 p.m. **Next Steps**
- 3:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

Addresses: Sanitation ingredient impact on toxicity; new nutrient limits have changed chemical makeup; polymer impact on toxicity; impact of investigation/chemical swap-outs on plantwide sanitation; where/when to test effluent and neutralizers; new solutions such as nanobubbles...

Kari F – May 2025 training for DNR staff; current challenges from her perspective; DNR thoughts on the TRE process; any permit and nutrient monitoring changes/consolidations DNR is considering to help industry in proactive planning/budgeting

INTRODUCTIONS:

Dr. Cliff Lange is Director and Principal at Effluency, LLC, a wastewater analysis and consulting firm. Dr. Lange has over 40 years of Experience in helping to solve wastewater issues and improve wastewater management.