

# Chemical Engineering Leadership Seminar Series

## **PYROTEK, UW CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, AND THE FUTURE**

### **Michael Mastor**

BS 2012

Associate Global Product Manager, PYROTEK

**Wednesday, September 30, 2015**

Lecture: 2:30-3:30 p.m. PAA A110

Reception at 3:30 p.m. in Benson Lobby

### **Abstract**

Shortly after graduating from the University of Washington Chemical Engineering Department, Michael undertook a job as a “Project Engineer” for Pyrotek, Inc., based in Spokane, Washington. Pyrotek is a privately owned company of 2,700 employees which services primarily the aluminum industry, offering materials, equipment, engineering services, and consulting for industrial-scale aluminum processing operations (including aluminum producers, recyclers, and foundries).

In his presentation, Michael will (a) present a general overview of Pyrotek and the industries that they serve, (b) outline his new role within the corporation (including general roles and responsibilities), (c) review techniques and studies at UW that bolstered his career so far, and (d) make recommendations for junior and senior chemical engineering students that wish to pursue careers in industry after graduating.

### **Speaker Biography**

Born in Elko, Nevada, Michael Mastor spent his early years growing up in a variety of US cities as well as the Southeast Asian city of Lombok, Indonesia during some of his grade school years. High School in Spokane Washington at Lewis and Clark High School (2007 graduate) was followed by 4 years at the University of Washington (UW) while earning his undergraduate degree. A member of Phi Gama Delta fraternity at UW, Michael became interested in Chemical Engineering after acknowledging the breadth of opportunities that present themselves when armed with such an all-encompassing degree.

After earning two internships as a student at the UW as well as Honors Research under the mentorship of Dr. John Berg, Michael graduated in the Winter of 2012 (although formally a graduate of 2011 with the rest of his classmates). After searching for jobs in the west and northwest regions of the US, an opportunity presented itself in Spokane with a company called Pyrotek, Inc. Now, after nearly 4 years with Pyrotek, Michael has earned a position of Associate Global Product Manager for Pyrotek’s lines of industrial lubricants and refining salts, each used near-exclusively in the Aluminum industry. Michael works as the technical liaison amongst many aspects of business relating to his product areas, including (but not limited to): manufacturing, sales, competitive analysis, pricing, troubleshooting, raw-material sourcing, manufacturing, and more.