

NPG Leadership Program

Network Partners Group (NPG) is building the next generation of industry leaders through our Packaging Engineering Leadership Program. The program teaches the fundamentals of life sciences packaging engineering using hands-on training and exercises to simulate real world experiences. NPG utilizes an accelerated format, rapidly bringing early-stage engineers to a significantly more advanced level; gaining this foundation and knowledge base would take years in a typical work environment.

Why Choose NPG?

- Learn from top industry professionals and subject matter experts
- Work with multiple clients over a 3-year period and build deeper, more varied experience than traditional entry-level roles
- Advance personal and professional skills in diverse assignments and locations
- Earn wildly competitive compensation and best-in-class benefits

Leadership Program at a Glance:

Foundational Development

- Working knowledge and application of US and Global packaging regulations
- Life sciences (medical device, pharmaceutical, and cold chain) packaging materials and configurations
- Testing requirements for regulatory compliance and packaging performance
- Design control, technical writing, material testing, design verification, validation studies, sterilization modalities, and process validations
- Statistical techniques and concepts

Hands-On Learning

- Gain experience with laboratory procedures and executing test methods
- Engage in simulated exercises to build real-world knowledge and understanding
- Take live tours of packaging material manufacturing operations, equipment manufacturers, test labs and sterilization facilities
- Participate in client meetings and gain an appreciation for NPG's business model
- Gain knowledge and build a professional network through industry tradeshow participation

Beyond Packaging

- Exposure to cross-functional areas adjacent to packaging including Regulatory Affairs, Labeling, Project Management & Quality Engineering
- Focus on soft skills, verbal and written communication, business etiquette, and organizational understanding
- Become an ambassador for the Network Partners Group brand

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Leadership Program Training Overview

Fundamentals

- Regulations and Standards
- Quality Management Systems
- Risk Management
- Microbiology and the science of microbial barrier
- CAPA and Root Cause Analysis
- Test Methods

Medical Device Packaging

- Design Inputs and Outputs
- Packaging Materials, Types, and Configurations
- Process Validation
- Testing Procedures and Protocols
- Design Verification
- Design Validation and Usability Evaluation

Pharmaceutical and Cold Chain Packaging

- Asset Delivery URS, FAT, SAT, Process Qualification
- Primary, secondary and tertiary packaging configurations and materials
- Small and large molecule packaging compendial testing support
- Container-closure integrity testing support
- Packaging engineering support for CDMOs
- Temperature controlled packaging system qualifications DQ/OQ/PQ

Commercialization

- Equipment, IQ/OQ/PQ
- Manufacturing and line transfers
- Design for Manufacturing

Business Acumen

- Fundamentals of business systems
- Project management overview
- Soft skills for successful business interactions
- Importance of client relationships
- Personality assessments

MEET OUR PACKAGING LEADERSHIP TRAINING TEAM

Network Partner Group's team of medical and pharmaceutical subject matter experts bring their real-world experience and expertise to the Leadership Program.



WES BUSH, CPPL

Director of Packaging Engineering

Wes leads NPG's Packaging Engineering Leadership Program and brings his medical packaging experience and knowledge into the classroom. Working as a packaging engineer for several medical device companies, Wes has first hand knowledge of new product development, packaging testing, CAPA remediation efforts and navigating large organizations from a packaging engineer's perspective.



BRIAN FARISON, CPPL, MBB

Technical Fellow, Packaging Engineering

As Technical Fellow, Brian brings a wealth of knowledge and a unique perspective to his portions of the Leadership Program. As a veteran of the medical device packaging industry and Certified Master Black Belt, Brian teaches our leadership program how to apply quality tools and statistical methods to package development, process characterization and test method validation.



KAREN GREENE, CPPL

Vice President of Client Solutions

Thanks to her extensive knowledge and experience in medical and pharma packaging as well as being a cold chain SME, Karen brings a wide range of expertise to the training program. Karen primarily trains our leadership program on technical writing, test methods, and all aspects of pharmaceutical packaging. She also provides training in design and development of cold chain packaging solutions.



ELON GOLDBAUM

Vice President of Packaging Engineering

Elon brings over 20 years of experience to the medical device field specializing in packaging, labeling, quality, CAPA systems and implementation of UDI requirements. Elon's multifaceted background provides support and leadership to NPG's Leadership Program. He provides in-depth training on quality management systems, CAPA, and root cause analysis



KAREN POLKINGHORNE, MBA

President of Packaging Engineering

As NPG's President of Packaging Engineering, Karen teaches the leadership program about the medical device packaging industry and some key business elements for becoming a successful packaging professional. Business topics covered in the program include building a strong business acumen and working knowledge of common business tools, presentation skills, overview of business interactions with suppliers and tips for successful communications.