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## Key Environmental Issue Webinar Series 5 for Overseas Chinese Environmental Engineers & Scientists Association

海外華人環境保護學會環境議題網上論壇(五)

# From Zero Waste to Circular Economy: Challenges and Practical Approaches



July 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-6:45 PM PDT

July 12<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-9:45 AM 中国标准时间

by

**Dr. Vincent Chih C. Chao, P.Eng (巢志成博士)**

Principal of Cantech Environmental Services, Toronto; Air & Waste Management Association's Coordinator of Sustainability, Climate Change, Resource Conservation and Waste Management Group within the Technical Council, Pittsburgh

**[Abstract]** This world is facing a serious challenge in ensuring sustainability caused by overexploitation of natural resources, excessive wastage of materials, energy and water, and fast accumulation of undesirable pollutants in the environment. Governments, industries, and communities worldwide have engaged a series of strategies and taken necessary steps including pollution treatment, waste minimization, resource recycling, cleaner production, eco-industrial networking, etc. This webinar will focus on the fundamental elements and factors of consideration in developing a zero-waste system versus a circular economy system. Potential barriers and resolution strategies will be discussed. Case studies will be reviewed with a focus on system development, implementation, multi-stakeholder consultation, barrier resolution, program execution, etc. Factors of success and/or failure will also be reviewed to share lessons learned, with a view of providing a working reference for interested planners and practitioners.

**[About the Speaker]** Dr. Chao is currently a Principal of Cantech Environmental Services based in Toronto, Ontario. He also serves as Pittsburgh-based Air & Waste Management Association's Coordinator of Sustainability, Climate Change, Resource Conservation and Waste Management Group. Prior to that, in the past 40 years Dr. Chao has held the positions of Tunghai University's vice president, fellow of Industrial Technology Research Institute and many other positions in environmental engineering. Trained as a chemical and environmental engineer, Dr. Chao has a great interest in working with natural and social scientists to search for and implement feasible approaches that will lead to establishment of sustainable low-carbon circular economy systems.

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**Moderator: Dr. Sen Li (李森)**

Technology Platform Leader at Eastman Chemical Company in Tennessee and the 2021 Public Outreach Chair of Northeast Tennessee Section of American Chemical Society (NETS-ACS).