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# INDUSTRY MATTERS

## Information, insights, and advice for ACS industry members

March 25, 2020

*As Alexa Dembek, DuPont's Chief Technology and Sustainability Officer put it, "... we have not faced a crisis as multifaceted as COVID-19 in generations." Indeed. Which is why we asked executives in several industries to let us know what they have learned so far about moving their businesses forward in the face of such an overwhelming, complex, and dynamic challenge.*

*My thanks to Alexa Dembek, DSM's Marcus Remmers, Pfizer's Charlotte Allerton, ExxonMobil's Vijay Swarup, and Genentech's Wendy Young for escaping the crucible long enough to share their thoughts with ACS Industry Matters readers.*

*John C. Katz  
Executive Editor*

■ **Presumably there is no playbook on your bookshelf labeled, "Open in case of Global Pandemic." What have you learned to-date about moving your business forward in the face of an exceptionally disruptive 'black swan' event?**



**Marcus Remmers**  
Chief Technology Officer,  
DSM

"First and foremost, your employees' well-being should be..." [Read More](#)



"In the face of this unprecedented healthcare challenge, the well-being of our colleagues, their families and..."

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**Charlotte Allerton**  
Head of Medicine Design,  
Pfizer



**Vijay Swarup**  
Vice President of Research and  
Development,  
ExxonMobil

"The quick rise and spread of COVID-19 around the globe had shown us just how interconnected we have become as..."

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"During any crisis – I have a motto: put people first. It is..." [Read More](#)



**Alexa Dembek**

Chief Technology and Sustainability  
Officer,  
DuPont



**Wendy Young**

Senior Vice President of Small Molecule  
Drug Discovery,  
Genentech

"One of the most important things we've learned is something we already knew..."

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