Braskem, the largest petrochemical producer in the Americas and the world's leading biopolymer producer. It was 36 industrial units in South America, United States and Germany. Braskem has a clear strategy for investing in the research and development of renewable based chemical technologies as alternatives to complement our current product portfolio based on petrochemicals. In 2010, we became the world leader in Biopolymers when we announced the production of polyethylene plastic made from sugarcane. Braskem reinforce the leadership in bio-thermoplastic, by signing a development agreement with Novozymes in 2012 for the development of bio-polypropylene. Both world-class companies are working together for the reinforce Braskem vision in the thermoplastics segment. Going forward into other markets, Braskem design a bio rubber platform in partnership with two synthetic biology start-ups. The company have signed an agreement for the joint development of two new technology for the production of butadiene and isoprene from renewable feedstocks with Genomatica (signed in 2013) and Amyris (signed in 2014), respectively. Through this partnership, Braskem reaffirms its commitment to invest in the research of producing chemicals from renewable feedstocks, effectively strengthening its leadership in synthetic biology. Braskem has invested in one of the most advanced laboratory in South America. A 7000 ft² facility with a multidisciplinary and international team in a variety of areas, including synthetic biology, protein engineering, automation, bioinformatics, fermentation and downstream processes. The research program conducted within Braskem seeks not only to find alternatives that are based on renewable feedstocks, but on developing routes that are also competitive in terms of production cost. Braskem vision is to be world leader in sustainable chemistry, innovating to better serve people. To transform this vision into reality, we are believe that synthetic biology will empower new technologies and transform our society.

Biography: Mateus Schreiner Garcez Lopes has completed his PhD in metabolic engineering at the age of 27 years from University of São Paulo/Brazil and University of Erlangen/Germany. His postdoctoral studies were at University of São Paulo and he holds a MBA in Agribusiness from the University of São Paulo. He had worked as researcher at the Natural Energy Institute (Hawaii - USA) and the Institute of Biotecnology from UNAM (Mexico). He is responsible for the Innovation in Renewable Technologies at Braskem, the largest petrochemical producer in the Americas and the world's leading biopolymer producer. He has published in international journals, has issued patents on new metabolic pathways and is serving as an industrial board member for Synbrc (Synthetic Biology Research Center - USA) and as a mentor in Indiebio, the world’s first synthetic biology accelerator (San Francisco – USA).