

# CBU Packaging Lab

*Siripong Malasri<sup>1</sup>*

**Abstract:** This presentation will cover the new packaging lab facility at Christian Brothers University. CBU packaging lab has been certified as a commercial transport testing lab by the International Safe Transit Association ([www.ista.org](http://www.ista.org)) since 2009. It has performed pre-shipment (distribution packaging) testing of packaged products for various companies over the years. The new lab building, designed by Fleming and constructed by Linkous, was ready in January 2024. The Gadomski Family Foundation generously provided the funds for both building and new pieces of testing equipment.

The new packaging facility strengthens CBU distribution packaging capability. It also allows CBU to expand its testing capability into two other areas: cold-chain packaging and medical device packaging. It is an excellent facility for training future packaging professionals as well as research.



## Presenter:

*Siripong Malasri* - Dr. Malasri is the Packaging Initiatives Coordinator at Christian Brothers University. He is a registered professional engineer in the State of Tennessee. He is also an ISTA Lifetime Packaging Dynamics Professional (LPDP), ISTA Certified Thermal Professional Level I (CTP I), IoPP Certified Packaging Professional (CPP), and Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Professional. In addition, he has completed the OSHA 10-Hr General Industry Safety Certification.

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**Pong Malasri, PhD, PE, CPP, LPDP, CTP I**

Dr. Pong Malasri earned his PhD in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University in 1982. He is a registered professional engineer (PE) in the State of Tennessee. He came to Christian Brothers University in 1988 as an Associate Professor of Civil Engineering. He later served as Civil & Environmental Engineering Department Chair (1991-1999), then Dean of Engineering (1999-2005). In the fall of 2000, the packaging groups of three global corporations in Memphis asked if CBU would offer a packaging program. That was the starting point of CBU Packaging. Currently, the packaging program is a concentration under the BS in Engineering Management.

Besides the educational program above, Dr. Malasri started the CBU packaging lab, which was certified as a commercial testing lab by the International Safe Transit Association in 2009. He also established the Healthcare Packaging Consortium in 2010 with major corporations. Both certified test lab and consortium remain active.

He returned to the dean position from 2014 to 2020. During this period, the school was renamed to the Gadomski School of Engineering in honor of Mr. Richard Gadomski. The STEM Center for Women and Diversity, the Surface Water Institute, the Construction Engineering & Inspection Consortium, and the Gadomski Center for Engineering Innovation were established during this period.

Dr. Malasri has also earned the following industry-recognized packaging-related certifications: Certified Packaging Professional (CPP) from the Institute of Packaging Professionals, Lifetime Packaging Dynamics Professional (LPDP) and Certified Thermal Professional Level I (CTP I). In addition, he is a Black Belt Lean Six Sigma Professional and an OSHA Certified Safety Professional.

His recognitions include: Distinguished Lasallian Educator Award from CBU (1997), Outstanding Engineer of the Year Award from TSPE State Chapter (2004), Award of Excellence from MJEC (2006), Pi Alpha Kappa Honorary Society Induction from the Institute of Packaging Professional (2009), and Distinguished Service Award from the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers Memphis Chapter (2015).