

# PPG's Creig Bowland Named 2012 SPE® Composites Person of the Year



## *Composites Person of the Year*

The SPE® Composites Division has named Creig Bowland, Long-Fiber Thermoplastics (LFT) Technical Leader and Research Associate at PPG Industries, the 2012 recipient of the group's prestigious *Composites Person of the Year* award. Bowland is being recognized for his contributions to the SPE Composites Division and the broader composites industry at this year's SPE® *Automotive Composites Conference & Exhibition*.

First given in 2004, the *Composites Person of the Year* award publicly acknowledges a contributor who has provided significant aid to the SPE Composites Division, particularly during the prior year, as well as made broader contributions to the composites industry as a whole. Nominations are reviewed by the board and one recipient is selected by the current division chair in consultation with the current awards chair. Previous winners of the award include:

Dan Buckley of American GFM, John Muzzy of the Georgia Institute of Technology, James Griffing of The Boeing Co., Fred Deans of Allied Composite Technologies LLC, Peggy Malnati of Malnati & Associates LLC, Dale Grove of US Silica, and Dale Brosius of Quickstep Composites LLC.

Explaining how Bowland was selected as this year's award recipient, current SPE Composites Division chair, Dale Brosius – who is president of his own consulting company as well as president of Quickstep Composites LLC, the U.S. subsidiary of Quickstep Technologies of Australia – explained, "We looked at Creig's leadership of the SPE ACCE show last year, which enjoyed record attendance and sponsorship in 2011 right after some of the toughest years this industry has seen in several decades. We also considered his leadership and management of issues with the show this year as the organizing committee strove to deal with a longstanding issue of space constraints. While he championed the move to consider a new and larger venue for the show after 11 years in the same location, he listened to his team and sought creative solutions to both solve the problem and provide continued value to attendees, exhibitors, and presenters at the existing location. Last, but certainly not least, we wanted to recognize his willingness to become Division Councilor for the next three years with our parent society."

Creig Bowland has over 20 years' experience in the design and production of composite materials for both aerospace and automotive markets. He has been involved in almost all aspects of the composites business, including materials design, production management, technical support, business development, and marketing. His area of expertise is the design and use of LFT composites for structural parts. Bowland holds a B.S. degree in Chemistry from Colorado State University and an M.S. degree in Physical Chemistry from the University of New Mexico. He is the Past Chair of the SPE Composites Division, has been the 2011 and 2012 SPE ACCE Event Chair, and was the SPE ACCE Technical Program Co-Chair in 2010.