

2012 SPE® AUTOMOTIVE COMPOSITES CONFERENCE FEATURES TWO POST-EVENT R&D CENTER TOURS

To provide additional educational and networking opportunities, SPE ACCE organizers have teamed up with two organizations to offer R&D center tours after the conference ends.

The tours are free, but participation is limited and only available to those attending the 2012

SPE ACCE. *Check with the front desk to see if there are any more openings left for either tour.*

TOUR 1: Thursday Afternoon Sept. 13, 4:30-7:00 p.m.: Plasan Carbon Composites R&D Center Wixom, Michigan, U.S.A.

Plasan Carbon Composites is North America's leading automotive tier 1 supplier of paint-line ready, Class A body panels, assemblies, and structural components in carbon fiber composites – materials renowned for significantly reducing mass, part count, assembly steps, and warranty costs while greatly increasing design freedom and optimizing package space.

During a 1-hour tour of the company's new R&D center in Wixom, see carbon composite parts molded on a new out-of-autoclave process developed jointly by Plasan and Globe Machine Manufacturing Co. Then, enjoy a reception where light snacks and beverages will be served.



TOUR 2: Friday Sept. 14, 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.: Fraunhofer Project Centre for Composites Research at Western University (FPC@Western), London Ontario, Canada

FPC@Western is an independent not-for-profit research platform for North American industry to investigate the potential of lightweight fiber-reinforced composites and advanced process technologies. The center's goal is to help accelerate adoption of high-volume composites technologies in industrial sectors like automotive, ground transportation, renewable energy, construction, aviation, and machinery/equipment. It benefits from its position in the heart of the Canadian automotive industry and its proximity to major North American automobile assembly and research centers nearby in the Detroit area.

After a 3-hr ride, enjoy lunch and an overview of the new center's purpose and resources, then walk the new facility and view composites processing equipment and speak with process and materials experts about their latest work in composites research.