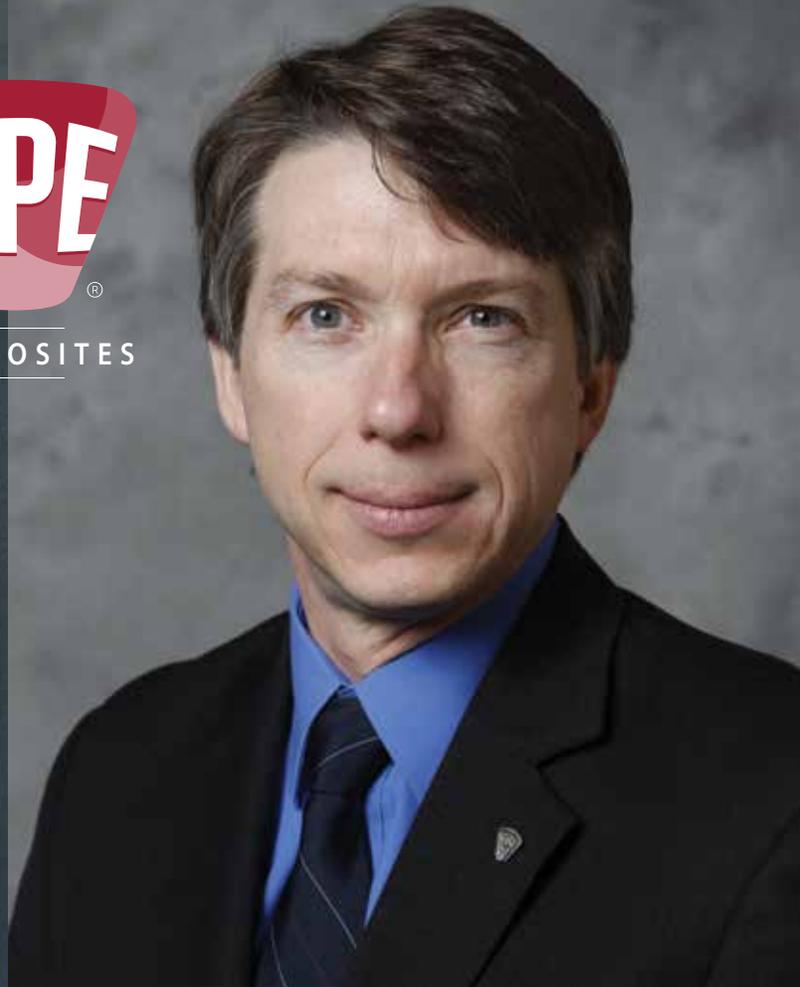


Composites Person of the Year



COMPOSITES

Jim Griffing



The SPE® Composites Division has named Jim Griffing, technical fellow at The Boeing Co. as its 2014 recipient of the group's prestigious **Composites Person of the Year** award. Griffing 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 during opening ceremonies.

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,
- Jim Griffing of The Boeing Co.,
- Fred Deans of Allied Composite Technologies LLC,
- Peggy Malnati of Malnati & Associates LLC,
- Dale Grove of US Silica,
- Dale Brosius of Quickstep Composites LLC,
- Creig Bowland of PPG Industries, and
- Dr. Michael Connolly of Huntsman Polyurethanes.

Explaining how Griffing was selected as this year's award recipient, an award he also received in 2006, Andrew Rich, SPE Composites Division chair and president and principal researcher of Element 6 Consulting explained, "Jim was the first member of the Composites Division board to become president of SPE International, a role he completed last year. Our board felt that Jim's election to lead all of SPE showed the broader plastics community how important composites have become to our industry. The Composites Division is the fastest growing division within SPE, and now represents about 10% of overall SPE membership globally. Jim Griffing and The Boeing Co. have

helped raise the profile of composites as a commercially viable, mainstream technology. Furthermore, as soon as Jim's term as society president was complete, he returned to our board and immediately took on more work as chair for the composites session at SPE's annual technical conference (ANTEC®) in 2015."

Jim Griffing has worked in Boeing's Research and Technology organization for 26 years and is currently a technical fellow specializing in polymer and composite materials and processes for aircraft. He is a recipient of Boeing Commercial Airplanes' 2012 *Revolutionizing Flight* award for his work implementing hybrid laminar flow control on the 787 airplane. Griffing also is a *Distinguished Member* of the Society of Plastics Engineers and was 2012-2013 SPE president. He currently serves on the board of directors for both the SPE Composites Division and the SPE Pacific Northwest Section. He also is a member of the Society for the Advancement of Materials and Process Engineering (SAMPE). Griffing holds a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and an M.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Washington. He worked as a process engineer at Chemical Fabrics Corp. in Vermont for two years before moving to Seattle. He holds three patents for overhead stowage design and manufacturing techniques, and has another patent pending.