



SPE[®] ANNOUNCES BEST-PAPER AWARD WINNERS FOR 7TH-ANNUAL AUTOMOTIVE COMPOSITES CONFERENCE

Organizers of the **SPE[®] Automotive Composites Conference & Exposition (ACCE)** have announced the winners of this year's three **Best Paper Awards** for excellence in technical writing. The winning entries were selected from among all written papers (not presentations) submitted for peer review for this year's conference. Winning authors will be honored for their achievement during opening remarks at the show, which runs from September 11-13, 2007 at the MSU Management Education Center in Troy, Michigan, U.S.A.

In the category of **Processing / Enabling Technologies**, the winning paper is titled **Development of a Tool to Measure Bond-Line Read-Through** and was authored by the team of Kedzie Fernholz (presenter) and Kim Lazarz, Ford Motor Company; C.S. Wang, General Motors Corporation; Bob Emerson and Dave Biernat, Chrysler LLC; Reda Hsakou, Visuol Technologies; and Darryl Case, EOS Technologies.

In the category of **Composite Applications**, the paper judged best by reviewers is titled **Pedestrian Safety Validation of a High-Performance Thermoplastic Composite Hood** by the writing team of Derek Buckmaster, GE Plastics and Tae-Won Hwang, Hyundai Kia Motors.

In the category of **New Materials**, the winning paper is titled **Effect of Additives on the Structure and Properties of Wheat Straw-Polypropylene Composites** and was authored by the team of Paula Kruger and Leonardo Simon from the University of Waterloo's Department of Chemistry.

Held annually in the suburbs of Detroit, the ACCE has become the world's leading forum for automotive composites. The event's success is attributed to the fact that it provides an environment dedicated solely to discussion and networking about advances in the automotive composites industry. Its global appeal is evident in the diversity of exhibitors, speakers, and attendees who come to the conference from Europe, the Middle East, and Asia / Pacific as well as North America and who represent transportation OEMs and tier suppliers; composite materials, processing equipment, additives, and reinforcement suppliers; trade associations, consultants, university and government labs, media, and investment bankers. This year's conference will be held September 11-13, 2007 at the MSU Management Education Center in Troy, Mich.

For more information about the **SPE ACCE**, visit the Composites' Division website at www.4spe.org/communities/divisions/d39.php, or the Automotive Division's website at www.speautomotive.com/comp.htm, or contact the group at +1.248.244.8993, or write SPE Automotive Division, 1800 Crooks Road, Suite A, Troy, MI 48084, USA.

For more information on the Society of Plastics Engineers International or other SPE events, visit the SPE website at www.4spe.org, or call +1.203.775.0471.

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