



SPE[®] ANNOUNCES DATES, LOCATION, THEME FOR 8TH-ANNUAL AUTOMOTIVE COMPOSITES CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION

The 8th-annual ***SPE Automotive Composites Conference & Exposition*** (ACCE) returns **September 16-18, 2008** at the MSU Management Education Center in Troy, Michigan, U.S.A. Now in its 8th year, the ACCE has become the world's leading forum for automotive composites and draws exhibitors, speakers, and attendees from Europe, the Middle East, and Asia / Pacific as well as North America. This year's conference theme is "*The Road to Lightweight Performance*," and reflects the progress transportation OEMs, tier suppliers, and composites producers have made in taking weight out and improving performance of vehicles by replacing metal and glass with lightweight, impact and corrosion resistant, polymer composites.

"Sustained high fuel prices are convincing consumers to seek more energy-efficient vehicles, but they would prefer not to sacrifice safety, comfort, and performance as part of the bargain," says Dale Brosius, chief-operating officer of Quickstep Technologies and chair of the 2007 ACCE event. "With the added pressure of increasing fuel-economy standards, advancements in engine technology and alternative powertrains like hybrids and fuel cells can only go so far. Making vehicles lighter by using composites deserves equal consideration in closing the gap."

Last year's ACCE conference again drew over 400 attendees from 14 countries on 4 continents thanks to a continuously expanding program of technical papers, keynote speakers, networking receptions, and exhibit space. Once again, nearly **half of conference attendees identified themselves as working for transportation OEMs or Tier suppliers** – extremely desirable numbers for a show like this.

The event is sponsored jointly by the SPE Automotive and Composites Divisions.

For more information about the SPE Automotive Composites Conference, 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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