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SPE® POSTS ABSTRACTS OF AUTOMOTIVE COMPOSITES CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & KEYNOTES

First Time Available for this Event Online, Organizers Hope Advance Posting Will Give Attendees More Time to Decide What to See at Show

TROY (DETROIT), MICH. – For the first time in the event's eight years, organizers for the ***SPE Automotive Composites Conference & Exhibition*** (SPE ACCE) have posted mini-abstracts for the conference's 61 technical papers and 9 keynote addresses online prior to the show, which runs from September 16-18, 2008 at the MSU Management Education Center here. The abstracts, which are part of the conference's program guide, are normally not viewable until the first day of the conference. By posting abstracts ahead of time, conference organizers hope to make decisions on which presentations to attend easier for those already registered for the show, and to persuade those who are still undecided of the technical value provided by the event, which has become the world's leading automotive composites forum.

Antoine Rios of The Madison Group, 2008 ACCE technical program co-chair, said "One of the great things about the ACCE is that we usually have two or three technical tracks running simultaneously. But that can also make it difficult to select which presentation to attend – both for attendees and for media – as topics such as materials, processes, and applications for automotive composites are necessarily interrelated."

This year's other technical program chair, Fred Buck of Commercial Vehicle Group added, "Our planning team literally works 11 months a year putting together this conference and we really try to represent the broadest and most innovative composites technology available for the ground-transportation industry. By publishing small abstracts on our presentations and keynote early, we hope to show the value this conference brings to those who are able to attend in person."

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2-2-2-2*

“We’ve long heard from attendees what a great networking opportunity this conference provides and what value there is in being able to talk with all the major automotive composites players in Europe and North America at one compact venue,” adds returning conference chair and sponsorship co-chair, Dale Brosius of Quickstep Technologies. “The quality of our technical program is definitely part of what draws attendees to our conference. Of course, other important components include the diversity of our sponsors and the fact that a third of our attendees work for transportation OEMs and close to 20% more work for the big tier suppliers.”

Current conference sponsors include:

- Addcomp Holland BV (*Associate Sponsor, Exhibitor, Pen/Notepad Sponsor*)
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- Williams, White & Co. (*Associate Sponsor, Exhibitor*)

In addition, the following media and association sponsors have also supported this year’s show:

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3-3-3-3

- American Composites Manufacturers Association
- Automotive Composites Alliance
- Automotive Design & Production Magazine
- CM Magazine
- Composites Technology Magazine
- High-Performance Composites Magazine
- Injection Molding Magazine
- Modern Plastics Worldwide Magazine
- Plastics News Magazine
- Plastics Technology Magazine
- Polymotive Magazine
- Ward's AutoWorld Magazine

Returning conference vice-chair, Frank Henning of Fraunhofer Institute of Chemical Technology notes that "This is really an international gathering. We draw speakers, sponsors, and attendees from 14 countries on four continents, representing the disciplines of design, engineering, manufacturing, research, journalism, teaching, and consulting. We even have investment bankers at our show. If you have personal or job interest in the world of composites for ground-transportation, this conference is for you."

The conference's 2008 schedule, abstracts, and entire program guide are available for viewing and download (in PDF format) at www.speautomotive.com/comp.htm. Registration forms are also available for those considering attendance at this year's show.

Now in its 8th year, the **SPE 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. Held annually in the suburbs of Detroit, the conference 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. The show is sponsored jointly by the SPE Automotive and Composites Divisions.

The mission of SPE is to promote scientific and engineering knowledge relating to plastics. SPE's Automotive and Composites Divisions work to advance plastics and plastic-based composites technologies worldwide and to educate industry, academia, and the public about these advances. Both divisions are dedicated to educating, promoting, recognizing, and communicating technical accomplishments for all phases of plastics and plastic-based composite developments, including materials, processing, equipment, tooling, design and testing, and application development.

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For more information about the **SPE Automotive Composites Conference & Exhibition**, 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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