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**SPE[®] ANNOUNCES DATE, THEME FOR 39TH-ANNUAL
AUTOMOTIVE INNOVATION AWARDS GALA**

TROY, (DETROIT) MICH. – The Automotive Division of the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE[®]) International today announced that the date for its 39th-annual **Automotive Innovation Awards Gala**, the oldest and largest recognition event in the automotive and plastics industries, will be **Thursday, November 12, 2009** at Burton Manor in the suburbs of Detroit.

Maria Ciliberti, global automotive director, Ticona Engineering Polymers, and also returning **SPE Automotive Innovation Awards** chair for 2009 said, "This year's **Innovation Awards** theme is **Green Cars...Blue Skies...** in recognition of our industry's intense focus on increasing fuel-efficiency while also lowering cost of ownership and tailpipe emissions for ground transportation and the important role that polymeric materials play in meeting those goals. Plastics are a practical, proven, safe, and economical option that provides automakers with lightweighting opportunities while maintaining style, comfort, and safety. Consumers benefit by lower fuel costs and the planet is protected by lowering the industry's carbon footprint. As it has for nearly four decades, this year's **SPE Automotive Innovation Awards Competition** is certain to highlight market-disruptive products that are changing the face of the automotive industry."

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SPE Announces Date, Theme for 38th-Annual Innovation Awards Competition
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The mission of SPE International is to promote scientific and engineering knowledge relating to plastics worldwide and to educate industry, academia, and the public about these advances. SPE's Automotive Division is active in educating, promoting, recognizing, and communicating technical accomplishments for all phases of plastics and plastic based-composite developments in the global transportation industry. Topic areas include applications, materials, processing, equipment, tooling, design, and development.

For more information about the ***Automotive Innovation Awards Competition and Gala*** or to download nomination forms and rules, visit the SPE Automotive Division's website at www.speautomotive.com/inno.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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