



## **SPECIAL INTRO TO ALUMINUM TOOLING SEMINAR OFFERED AT 2009 SPE<sup>®</sup> AUTOMOTIVE TPO GLOBAL CONFERENCE**

**TROY, (DETROIT) MICH.** – The eleventh-annual *SPE<sup>®</sup> Automotive TPO Global Conference* organized by the **Detroit Section** of the **Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE<sup>®</sup>) International** features two new stand-alone seminars/training programs that should be of high interest to automotive component-suppliers. The sessions focus on teaching molders how to be more productive while working with injection-moldable polymers, and how to use advanced process controls and aluminum tooling. A new day-rate makes it easier to attend just the special training sessions for those with limited budgets or who are unable to be away from work the three days of the conference

### **About the Aluminum Tooling Seminar**

The auto industry's long-time emphasis on cost reduction, faster time to market, and higher quality, coupled with the new shift toward lower-volume, niche-vehicle production is creating new opportunities where aluminum tooling may be appropriate for injection-molded components. Developed by manifold supplier, Rich Oles of PSG Plastic Service Group Inc. (PSG) and its partners, the special **Aluminum Tooling Session** is an open-format "technical town-hall meeting" that is designed to help teach molders about the pros and cons of production aluminum tooling so they can make better-informed decisions afterwards about the appropriateness of this technology. Speakers will share not only their own best practices but also those of their competitors so the audience gains a more balanced perspective. Session organizers acknowledge that aluminum tooling is not appropriate for every automotive-plastic component so the seminar was designed to maintain a balanced, educational emphasis with strong audience participation encouraged.

This special module attempts to cover all aspects of aluminum tooling – from prototype to production—and to do so from multiple perspectives: the OEM, tier integrator, mold manufacturer, and material supplier. Topics to be covered include:

- **Plenary Presentation: Aluminum Tooling for Injection Molding of TPO Materials** (by Patti Tibbenham of Ford Motor Co.);
- **Mold Design Improvements, Surface Coatings, Heat Transfer and Part Price Opportunities** (by Robert Beard, an industry consultant);
- **Properties of Aluminum Materials for Injection Molds** (by Dave Wirth of Clinton Aluminum);
- **Designing Production Aluminum Molds** (by Greg Eidenberger, Paragon Die & Engineering);
- **Case Studies of Production Aluminum Tooling** (by Dave Dickerson from DRS Industries);
- **Manifold Considerations: Thermal 2-3D Analysis** (by Rich Oles of PSG); and
- **Lessons Learned in Graining and Repair of Aluminum Tooling for Injection Molding** (by Ron Smierciak, Alcoa).

For more information about the *SPE Automotive TPO Global Conference*, to view the conference's schedule of presentations, or to register to attend the event, please visit <http://auto-tpo.com/> or [www.speautomotive.com/tpo.htm](http://www.speautomotive.com/tpo.htm).

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