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***SPE® ANNOUNCES DETAILS FOR ELEVENTH AUTOMOTIVE COMPOSITES
CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION***

***Conference Organizers Issue Call for Papers for September Event,
Abstracts Due March 26, Papers / Presentations Due May 28, 2011***

TROY (DETROIT), MICH. – The organizing committee for the ***SPE Automotive Composites Conference & Exhibition*** (ACCE) today announced the dates, theme, and location for this year's show and issued its annual *Call for Papers*. Now in its eleventh year, the ACCE has become the world's leading forum for automotive composites and draws exhibitors, speakers, and attendees from Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia / Pacific as well as North America. This year's event, whose theme is ***Composites: Driving Design***, returns **September 13-15, 2011** at the MSU Management Education Center in Troy, Mich., U.S.A.

Creig Bowland, senior research associate at PPG Industries, and the 2011 SPE ACCE conference chair said, "The auto industry is showing signs of recovery, and the focus with OEMs is clearly on quality, safety, energy efficiency, and attention to detail – both inside and outside the vehicle. But to sustain real growth, our industry needs to work together to develop and execute new technologies that meet customer targets for attractive styling, functional design, increased safety, less environmental impact, and affordability. We at SPE believe that composites are an enabling technology for the automotive industry to meet those goals, and each September for the last decade we've gathered to discuss the latest breakthroughs and most successful applications in ground transportation at the ACCE. We look forward to hosting this year's event."

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SPE Announces Details for Eleventh-Annual Automotive Composites Conference
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Those interested in speaking at this year's event should submit abstracts by March 26, 2011 to the review committee via ACCEpapers@speautomotive.com. Full papers or presentations are due May 28, 2011. Authors who submit papers (not presentations) in the proper format by the due date will automatically be eligible for consideration for the conference's *Best Paper Awards*, which will be presented during the event's opening ceremony.

The ACCE typically draws over 400 speakers, exhibitors, sponsors, and attendees from 14 countries on four continents with fully one-third indicating they work for a transportation OEM. Interestingly, over the past few years, the types of OEMs represented at the show have continued to broaden beyond traditional automotive and light truck, to include agriculture, truck & bus, heavy truck, and aviation. This trend may indicate greater interest in technology sharing among transportation OEMs and suppliers.

Held annually in suburban Detroit, the ACCE provides an environment dedicated solely to discussion and networking about advances in the transportation composites. Its global appeal is evident in the diversity of exhibitors, speakers, and attendees who come to the conference from Europe, the Middle East, Africa, 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.

For more information about the SPE Automotive Composites Conference, visit the Automotive Division's website at <http://speautomotive.com/comp.htm>, or the Composites' Division website at <http://compositeshelp.com>, 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 or other SPE events, visit the SPE website at www.4spe.org, or call +1.203.775.0471.

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