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DR. ASHISH DIWANJI, V.P.-INNOVATIONS AT OWENS CORNING TO GIVE SPE® AUTO COMPOSITES KEYNOTE THIS SEPTEMBER

Speaker will Address Winning with Composites in a World Seeking Sustainable Solutions

TROY (DETROIT), MICH. – Dr. Ashish Diwanji, vice-president of innovations at Owens Corning (www.owenscorning.com), is a confirmed keynote speaker at the 2011 ***SPE Automotive Composites Conference & Exhibition*** (ACCE) held **September 13-15, 2011** at the MSU Management Education Center in Troy, Mich., U.S.A. On Tuesday afternoon, September 14th, Diwanji will present *Winning with Composites in a World Seeking Sustainable Solutions,* just before an ACCE panel discussion (which he will join), on *Measuring the Sustainability Proposition of Composites*.

"Oil price volatility, supply security concerns, and an ever-increasing and consuming population have created significant global issues with repercussions that are being felt today and may continue for decades to come," says Diwanji about the topic of his upcoming talk. "Faced with this situation, we must develop solutions that meet these problems head on. For the composites industry, these challenges represent opportunity for business growth in markets ranging from automotive to alternative energy to building infrastructure. The use of glass composites as a part of this solution can help deliver preferable, sustainable solutions for our world."

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The speaker adds that converting traditional materials like metals, stone, concrete, and glass to composites can enhance energy efficiency and productivity since composite parts consume less energy, emit fewer greenhouse gases, and offer the additional benefits of greater durability, corrosion resistance, longer term aesthetics, and added safety. With tools like Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), the industry has a methodology for calculating and communicating the relative eco-benefits of composites applications.

Diwanji has held his current position as vice-president of Innovations for Owens Corning's Composite Solutions Business since 2006. In this role, he is responsible for commercializing innovations that yield growth and investment-grade financial results by leading creative technical talent-based teams globally in sites like Granville, Ohio; Chambery, France; Apeldoorn, The Netherlands; Shanghai, China; and Ibaraki, Japan. Diwanji joined Owens Corning in 1995 and has held numerous positions with global accountability, including marketing, business development, automotive operations, and technology leadership. He has 20 years of composite-materials experience – 10 of it in the automotive industry – in technical, marketing, and commercialization roles, and more recently has worked on composite solutions for wind energy, marine, and ballistics. In addition, Diwanji has represented Owens Corning on several university and U.S. government agency panels and committees such as the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Department of Energy (DOE). He was previously a member of the board of directors for the National Composite Center (Dayton, Ohio) and currently sits on the board of the State of Ohio's Research and Commercialization Program (RCP) committee for commercialization of composites in wind and ballistics. He holds a bachelor's degree in Materials Science from the Indian Institute of Technology in Mumbai, India, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Materials Science from the Center for Composite Materials at the University of Delaware. He has also been awarded two patents.

Owens Corning (NYSE: OC) is a leading global producer of residential and commercial building materials, glass-fiber reinforcements and engineered materials for composite systems. A Fortune® 500 Company for 57 consecutive years, Owens Corning is committed to driving sustainability by delivering solutions, transforming markets and enhancing lives. Founded in 1938, Owens Corning is a market-leading innovator of glass-fiber technology with sales of $5 billion in 2010 and about 15,000 employees in 28 countries on five continents. Additional information is available at **www.owenscorning.com.**

About the SPE ACCE

Held annually in suburban Detroit, the SPE ACCE typically draws 400+ speakers, exhibitors, sponsors, and attendees from 14 countries on five continents and provides an environment dedicated solely to discussion and networking about advances in 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 -- traditional automotive and light truck, as well as agriculture, truck & bus, commercial truck, and aviation – 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 SPE's Automotive and Composites Divisions.

Current sponsors and exhibitors for the show include: Ticona Engineering Polymers, Dieffenbacher GmbH, Magna Exteriors and Interiors, Continental Structural Plastics, RTP Co., Bayer MaterialScience, Addcomp North America, Inc., AOC Resins, Asahi Kasei Plastics North America, Inc., Toho Tenax America, Inc., PPG Industries, Acrolab, Ltd., OCV Reinforcements, Bulk Molding Compounds Inc., Premix, Inc., Quantum Composites, Ashland Inc., American Chemistry Council - Plastics Div., Dassault Systèmes, BASF, e-Xstream engineering, Flow International Corp., Polystrand, Williams, White & Co., Plasan Carbon Composites, Mitsubishi Rayon Co. Ltd., Newport Adhesives & Composites Inc., National Research Council Canada (NRCC) - Automotive Div., DASI Solutions, LayStitch Technologies, Core Molding Technologies, Inc., *Reinforced Plastics* magazine, *Composites Technology* magazine, *High-Performance Composites* magazine, *CompositesWorld Weekly* eZine, *Ward's AutoWorld* magazine, WardsAuto.com, *Plastics Technology* magazine, Plaspec Global Plastics Selector, *Polymotive* magazine, *Automotive Design & Production* magazine, AutoField Blog, *China Plastics & Rubber Journal*, *China Plastics & Rubber Journal International*, *Plastics Engineering* magazine, *Automotive NewsWire* eZine, SAE International, *Automotive Engineering International* magazine, JEC Group, and Composites Europe.

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 & Exhibition, 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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TROY (DETROIT), MICH. – Dr. Ashish Diwanji, vice president of innovations at Owens Corning (www.owenscorning.com), will give a keynote speech at the 2011 ***SPE Automotive Composites Conference & Exhibition*** (ACCE) on Tuesday afternoon, September 14 entitled: *Winning with Composites in a World Seeking Sustainable Solutions.* After his talk, Diwanji will join an ACCE panel discussion, moderated by Jeff Sloan, editor-in-chief of CompositesWorld.com, on *Measuring the Sustainability Proposition of Composites*.

Diwanji has held his current position with Owens Corning's Composite Solutions Business since 2006. In this role, he is responsible for commercializing innovations that yield growth and investment-grade financial results by leading creative technical talent-based teams around the world. He has worked for Owens Corning since 1995 and has held numerous positions with global accountability. He has 20 years of composite-materials experience – 10 of it in the automotive industry – in technical, marketing, and commercialization roles, and more recently has worked on composite solutions for wind energy, marine, and ballistics. In addition, Diwanji has represented Owens Corning on several university and U.S. government agency panels and committees, was a board member for the National Composite Center, and currently sits on the board of the State of Ohio's Research and Commercialization Program (RCP) committee for commercialization of composites in wind and ballistics. He has been awarded two patents and holds a B.S. degree in Materials Science from the Indian Institute of Technology, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Materials Science from the University of Delaware.

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Attention Editors: Medium-resolution digital photography is available upon request.