



EXXONMOBIL SPEAKER TO EXPLAIN WHY POLYOLEFINS ARE A SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION AT 2011 SPE® AUTO TPO SHOW

TROY, (DETROIT) MICH. – Four keynote speakers will discuss important industry trends currently reshaping the global automotive-plastics market at the thirteenth **SPE® Automotive TPO Global Conference**, the world's leading automotive polyolefins conference. After lunch on opening day, **Monday morning, October 3rd**, **T.H. (Tom) Henry**, manager-Global Automotive Business Development, Specialty Compounding Business, *ExxonMobil Chemical Co.* (<http://www.exxonmobilchemical.com/automotive>), will deliver a keynote entitled **"Polyolefins are a Sustainable Solution."** Led by high growth rates in emerging economies, automotive production continues to expand globally. While not the largest energy-consuming segment, transportation – thanks to increased vehicle penetration in developing economies – contributes significantly to increased energy demand.

"Industry must accelerate the pace at which efficiency gains are achieved in order to mitigate future energy-demand growth," says Henry. "In the automotive arena, wider use of high-performance, lightweight polyolefin-based materials can reduce vehicle weight, save energy, and reduce emissions. That's good for everyone."

In his current role, which he has held since 2008, Henry oversees market development and activities related to growth and global use of ExxonMobil Chemical's Exxtral™ TPO and ExxonMobil™ Polypropylene products in the automotive industry. A 33-year employee of the company, he has spent the last 13 years exclusively in positions where he has been responsible for expanding ExxonMobil Chemical's Automotive business. A 1978 Chemical Engineering graduate of Tulane University in New Orleans, Henry joined then Exxon Chemical at its Baton Rouge, La. Intermediates chemical plant as a manufacturing process engineer. In 1980, he moved to Houston, Texas to begin a series of North American-based assignments in Sales, Marketing, Manufacturing, and Business Management within the same Intermediates business. In 1999, he became general manager of the Mytex engineered PP-based compounds joint venture between Exxon and Mitsubishi Chemical based in Jeffersonville, Ind. In 2006, after ExxonMobil Chemical formed the Specialty Compounding business, Henry again relocated to Houston as Global Projects & Planning manager for the new unit where he led the team charged with establishing the company's North American PP-focused compounding efforts.



About the Automotive TPO Global Conference

Since 1998, the ***SPE Automotive TPO Global Conference*** has highlighted the importance of rigid and flexible polyolefins throughout the automobile – in applications ranging from semi-structural composite underbody shields and front-end modules to soft-touch interior skins and bumper fascia. Throughout that time, polyolefins have been the fastest-growing segment of the global plastics industry owing to their excellent cost / performance ratio. The show typically draws over 400 attendees from 20 countries on four continents who are interested in learning about the latest in rigid and elastomeric thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO) as well as thermoplastic elastomer (TPE) and thermoplastic vulcanizate (TPV) technologies. Fully a third of conference attendees say they work for a transportation OEM, and roughly 20% work for a tier integrator / molder, with the balance representing materials or reinforcement suppliers, equipment OEMs, industry consultants, media, and members of academia. As such, the event offers attendees a rich environment in which to network and explore the latest developments in materials, processing, and applications for these versatile families of thermoplastic resins.

Traditional technical sessions on *Materials Development*, *Polypropylene Compounds*, *Applications Development*, and *Surface Enhancements* are planned for this year's program, as well as new sessions on *TPO / TPE Interfaces* and *Polyolefin Foams & Advances in Olefin Processes*. A venue change to the Detroit-Marriott-Troy hotel (<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/dtttt-detroit-marriott-troy/?clusterCode=MW1>) has been made for the 2011 conference. A variety of sponsorship packages are available for companies interested in showcasing their products and/or services. There is still time for those interested in submitting papers or presentations for the technical program, which should be eMailed to TPOpapers@auto-tpo.com.

For more information about the ***SPE Automotive TPO Global Conference***, to view the conference's evolving technical program, or to register to attend the event, please visit <http://auto-tpo.com>, or contact the group at +1.248.244.8993, or write SPE Detroit Section, 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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