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SPE[®] ANNOUNCES DATES, LOCATION, THEME FOR FOURTEENTH AUTOMOTIVE COMPOSITES CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION (ACCE)

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 fourteenth year, the SPE ACCE is the *world's leading forum for automotive composites* and draws over 900 exhibitors, speakers, and attendees from 15 countries on five continents. This year's show, whose theme is **Composites: Meeting Today's Automotive Needs**, returns **September 9-11, 2014** to The Diamond Banquet & Conference Center at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, Mich. in the Detroit area.

Dr. Michael Connolly, program manager-Urethane Composites at Huntsman Polyurethanes, 2014 SPE ACCE conference co-chair explains, "Our conference has been fortunate to experience some pretty significant growth in the past few years, thanks to a rebound in the North American automotive industry along with considerable interest among all transportation OEMs on the subject of *lightweighting* and the role composites can have in helping them achieve mass-reduction goals. That means our committee is working harder than ever to ensure we provide a strong technical platform for discussing the latest advances in transportation composites as well as expanding our exhibition area with suppliers from all parts of the automotive composites supply chain."

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SPE Announces Details for 2013 Automotive Composites Conference
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Antony Dodworth, managing director, Dodworth Design and the 2014 SPE ACCE co-chair adds, "This year's conference theme reflects our commitment to show automakers that composites aren't just something to solve *future* transportation issues. Composites suppliers are actively engaged in solving problems today by improving cost, weight, aesthetics, and safety performance of cars and light trucks."

Those interested in speaking at this year's event should submit **abstracts** by **March 30, 2014** and full **papers or presentations** are due **May 30, 2014** to the review committee via ACCEpapers@speautomotive.com. Authors who submit full papers (not presentations) in the proper format will be considered for the conference's *Best Paper Awards*, which will be presented during the event's opening ceremony.

Held annually in suburban Detroit, the ACCE draws over 900 speakers, exhibitors, sponsors, and attendees and 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. Fully one-third of attendees indicate they work for automotive and light truck, agriculture, truck & bus, or aviation OEMs, and another 25% represent tier suppliers. Attendees also work for composite materials, processing equipment, additives, or reinforcement suppliers; trade associations, consultants, university and government labs; media; and investment bankers. The show has been jointly sponsored by the SPE Automotive and Composites Divisions since 2001.

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://specomposites.com>, or contact the group at +1.248.244.8993 extension 4, 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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