



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: (27 May 2015)**  
**SPEAD-01-15**

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***DR. SURESH SHAH RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS SPE®  
RESEARCH/ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY AWARD***

**TROY (DETROIT), MICH.** – Dr. Suresh Shah, who has served on the SPE® Automotive Division board of directors in many roles since 1992, was named the 2015 recipient of SPE International's prestigious **Research/Engineering Technology Award**. Shah was selected as this year's winner for his longstanding contributions to automotive plastics and composites developments at companies like General Motors Corp. (GM, Detroit) and Delphi Corp. (Troy, Mich.). The prize, which included an engraved plaque and a \$2,500 USD honorarium, recognizes outstanding achievements in the fields of plastic research and/or engineering technology and is one of the highest honors SPE bestows upon an individual.

Shah received the award and was recognized at both the Council Leadership luncheon and the Plastics Hall of Fame Reception and Induction ceremony on March 22, 2015 during the Society's 73rd-Annual Technical Conference (ANTEC®) in Orlando, Fla., U.S. Given roughly annually since year 2000, previous recipients of the award include:

- Dr. Gregory B. McKenna (2000),
- Dr. Yash P. Khanna (2001),
- Dr. Costas G. Gogos (2002),
- Dr. Robert A. Weiss (2003),
- Dr. Chan I. Chung (2004),
- Dr. Shriram Bagrodia (2005),
- Dr. Anthony J. Bur (2006),
- Dr. Kun Sup Hyun (2007),
- Dr. L. James Lee (2008),
- Dr. Murali Rajagopalan (2010),
- Dr. Rejendra Krishnaswamy (2011),
- Dr. Krishna Venkatasway (2012),
- Dr. Robert Gallucci (2013), and
- Prof. Sindee Simon (2014).

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*Dr. Suresh Shah Receives Prestigious SPE® Research/Engineering Technology Award*  
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Dr. Suresh Shah has authored over 70 publications and been invited to give 16 keynote speeches. Two papers he authored in 1991 and 1993 won SPE Best Paper Awards at the society's ANTEC conference. He has been interviewed more than 30 times by various magazines as an expert in automotive plastic materials and processes. He also holds 44 intellectual properties — 27 U.S. patents, 10 defensive publications, and seven trade secrets.

Additionally, Shah was inducted as a Gold Level Hall of Fame Innovation Award winner at Delphi for his technical contributions and 40+ intellectual properties in December 2014. The SuperPlug® door hardware module he led development of in 1993, and that has now been translated to more than 30-million vehicles worldwide, was given a Hall of Fame award in 2011 by the SPE Automotive Division. Shah was named Scientist of the Year in 2009 by the Engineering Society of Detroit and its 77 affiliate councils. That same year he also received tributes from the governor of Michigan and the mayor of the city of Troy, Mich. In 2003, Shah received the SPE Honored Service Member award for his contributions to the SPE Automotive Div. Two years earlier, he was inducted as a Technical Fellow in SPE and a year before that he was inducted into Delphi Automotive Systems' Innovation Hall of Fame —again for his technical contributions to the company. In 2000, his work on TPO skin formulations for the *Pontiac Bonneville* sedan produced by GM won the Interior Product Innovation award by the SPE Automotive Div. In both 1996 and 1998 Shah was nominated for the Boss Kettering award at General Motors for his efforts bringing innovation into production that had significant impact on corporate profits. And in 1997 he was given GM's Presidential Council Honors award.

Between 1995 and 1997, Shah's SuperPlug application won a host of international awards including Modern Plastic International magazine's Process Award (Zurich, Switzerland, 1997); the PRW Europe Award of Excellence in the transportation category (London, U.K., 1996); SPE International's Plastic Industrial Product Design Award during the society's ANTEC® show (Minneapolis, Minn., 1996); the IBEC Design Award from the International Body Engineering Council (Novi, Mich., 1996); the SPE Automotive Product Design award (1995, Detroit); and *DesignFax* magazine's Five-Star Product of the Month Award (1995). Other technologies he worked on that won awards include the SPE Automotive Division's Body Interior category for the NUMMI (New United Motor Manufacturing, Inc.) assist grip handle in 1991, and the Society of the Plastics Industry (SPI®) Award of Excellence for a composite window guidance channel in 1990.

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*Dr. Suresh Shah Receives Prestigious SPE® Research/Engineering Technology Award  
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Throughout his distinguished automotive plastics career Shah has worked in advanced plastic processes such as gas-assist injection molding, co-injection molding, microcellular molding, hybrid plastic/metal molding, and direct (inline-compounded (ILC) long-fiber thermoplastic (D-LFT) composites. He also has worked on materials developments involving natural fiber composites, nanocomposites, D-LFT composites, and thermoplastic polyolefins (TPOs) and thermoplastic elastomers (TPEs).

The mission of SPE is to promote scientific and engineering knowledge relating to plastics worldwide and to educate industry, academia, and the public about these advances. SPE's Automotive Division is active in educating, promoting, recognizing, and communicating technical accomplishments in all phases of plastics and plastic based-composite developments in the global transportation industry. Topic areas include applications, materials, processing, equipment, tooling, design, and development.

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