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**Media Contact:**

Peggy Malnati, SPE Auto. Div. Comm. Chair  
Malnati & Associates  
Phone: +1.248.592.0765  
eMail: [media@speautomotive.com](mailto:media@speautomotive.com)

***SPE® ANNOUNCES DATES, LOCATION, THEME FOR SIXTEENTH  
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 sixteenth year, the SPE ACCE is the *world's leading forum for automotive composites* and draws over 1,000 exhibitors, speakers, and attendees from 15 countries on five continents to the Detroit area, inspiring organizers to select this year's theme of "*Innovations in Automotive Composites: from Motor City to the World.*" The 2016 show returns **September 7-9** to **The Diamond Banquet & Conference Center at the Suburban Collection Showplace** in Novi, Mich. in the Detroit suburbs.

"Based on the continued growth of the SPE ACCE, it's an exciting time to be involved in automotive composites," notes Rani Richardson, composites & additive manufacturing business experience consultant, Dassault Systèmes and 2016 SPE ACCE event chair. "With less than a decade to go before really challenging emissions and fuel-economy standards kick in for automakers in some of the world's largest economies, the pressure's on to take mass as well as cost out of vehicles without compromising safety, functionality, aesthetics, and customer satisfaction. The ACCE is a great place to discover many of the innovations driving those changes, and to network with those passionate about transportation composites."

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*SPE Announces Details for 2016 Automotive Composites Conference*  
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Those interested in speaking at this year's event should go to <http://SubmitACCEpapers.com> and upload abstracts by **March 31, 2016** and full papers or non-commercial presentations by **May 31, 2016**. Authors who submit full papers (not presentations) in the proper format will be considered for the conference's *Dr. Jackie Rehkopf Best Paper Awards*, which are presented during the event's opening ceremony. Questions for the peer review committee may be addressed to [ACCEpapers@speautomotive.com](mailto:ACCEpapers@speautomotive.com).

Held annually in suburban Detroit, the ACCE draws over 1,000 speakers, exhibitors, sponsors, and attendees 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. 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, consultancies, university and government labs; media; and investment banks. The show has been jointly sponsored by the SPE Automotive and Composites Divisions since 2001. For more information on the SPE ACCE, see <http://speautomotive.com/comp.htm> or <http://specomposites.com>.

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 on the Society of Plastics Engineers or other SPE events, see [www.4spe.org](http://www.4spe.org).

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