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ORGANIZERS ANNOUNCE PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE FOR FIRST SPE[®] SHANGHAI TPO CONFERENCE

TROY, (DETROIT) MICH. – The organizing committee for the new **SPE[®] Shanghai TPO Conference, March 22-24, 2016** at the Shanghai Marriott City Centre hotel in Shanghai, China, has announced the event's preliminary technical program. In addition to two keynotes, a total of 23 presentations (including one plenary talk) will be given in seven sessions in a single technical track during the two-and-a-half-day program. The technical program and accompanying exhibition are currently supported by the generosity of 26 sponsors, exhibitors, and advertisers, with more expected to join before the conference.

"Because of their versatility and low mass, thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO) materials are being used extensively for a great number of automotive applications," notes Dr. Sriman "Norm" Kakarala, SPE Shanghai TPO technical program chair and *retired*-Inteva Products LLC. "The Shanghai TPO conference's technical program covers the latest TPO technology developments from around the world as is evidenced by our international list of speakers. During the first day of the conference, sessions will be focused on TPOs for automotive interiors to highlight the fastest growing automotive segment. Critically important lightweight technologies will be covered during the second day of the conference. The event's last day will focus on process developments and predictive performance models."

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Day 1 Technical Program: Tuesday, March 22, 2016

After opening remarks, a keynote presentation by Dr. Rose Ryntz, vice-president, Advanced Engineering & Material Development, International Automotive Components Group on *The Changing Landscape for Plastics Use in Interior Automotive Applications*, a message from SPE International, the first day technical program highlights, and a break, the formal technical program begins with a session on **Soft TPO Applications** containing three presentations, the first of which is also a plenary talk:

SESSION 1: SOFT TPO APPLICATIONS

- [Presentation #1/Plenary Talk: Ken Gassman, Inteva Products LLC \(USA\)](#): Trends in Automotive Interiors
- [Presentation #2: Roger Young, Robert Eller Associates LLC \(USA\)](#): Current and Future Prospects for TPOs and TPEs in Interiors
- [Presentation #3: Dan Feeney, Haartz Corporation \(USA\)](#): New Innovations in Moldable TPO Laminates for Automotive Interiors

A leisurely 90-minute lunch and networking session follow. The afternoon's program features two sessions — **Coatings for Automotive Interiors** and **Rigid TPO Compounds** — split by a mid-afternoon break.

SESSION 2: COATINGS FOR AUTOMOTIVE INTERIORS

- [Presentation #4: Jim Keller, United Paint & Chemical Corporation \(USA\)](#): Design of Automotive Interior Coatings
- [Presentation #5: John Millea, The Haartz Corporation \(USA\)](#): Overcoming the Challenges Posed By Consumer Products Used In Automotive Interiors
- [Presentation #6: Martin van den Berg, Stahl \(USA\)](#): Development of Global Emission Compliant Topcoats and Primers for TPO Materials

SESSION 3: RIGID TPO COMPOUNDS

- [Presentation #7: Dr. Laura Shereda, Asahi Kasei Plastics North America, Inc. \(USA\)](#): Understanding Emissions of PP-Based Resin Compositions
- [Presentation #8: Emily Fu, Reliable Analysis \(Shanghai\) Inc. \(China\)](#): The ABCs of VOCs
- [Presentation #9: Linda Havermans, SABIC \(The Netherlands\)](#): Meeting the Challenge of Delivering Global PP Compound Solutions

The day ends with another break followed by a dinner reception.

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Day 2 Technical Program: Wednesday, March 23, 2016

After opening remarks, keynote presenter, Dr. Stéphane Quilliet, engineering manager- Injection Molding Team, RocTool, will give the talk: *On the Road to a New Standard: High-Definition Plastics*. This will be followed by the second day's technical program highlights and a break before the formal technical program begins with the first of a two-part session on **Lightweight Technologies**. Both morning and afternoon segments contain three presentations each and are split by a leisurely 90-minute lunch. A third session on **Material Developments** follows after a mid-afternoon break. The day ends with an evening dinner reception.

SESSION 4: LIGHTWEIGHT TECHNOLOGIES - Part 1

- [Presentation #10: Anis Tebib, Trinseo Automotive \(France\)](#): Enable Lighter Designs: The Renault Espace Full TPO Liftgate
- [Presentation #11: Linda Havermans, SABIC \(The Netherlands\)](#): Achieving Weight Reduction and a Balance of Properties with PP Compounds in Both Interior and Exterior Applications
- [Presentation #12: Dr. Laura Shereda, Asahi Kasei Plastics North America, Inc. \(USA\)](#): New Developments in Talc and Cellulose Fiber-Reinforced PP for Automotive Interior Trim Weight Savings

SESSION 5: LIGHTWEIGHT TECHNOLOGIES - Part 2

- [Presentation #13: David Brands, SABIC \(The Netherlands\)](#): Weight Reduction Technologies for Long Glass-Reinforced Polypropylene
- [Presentation #14: Dr. Laura Shereda, Asahi Kasei Plastics North America, Inc. \(USA\)](#): Welding Improvements with a Focus on High Strength Glass-Reinforced Polypropylene
- [Presentation #15: Piergiovanni Ercoli Malacari, IMI Fabi SpA \(Italy\)](#): HVT Extra: Introducing a New Talc for Best Performance Tradeoffs

SESSION 6: MATERIAL DEVELOPMENTS

- [Presentation #16: Dr. Sam He, Inteva Products LLC \(USA\)](#): Discussion of Thermoplastic Concentrates / Additives and Automotive Interior Applications
- [Presentation #17: Jungdu Kim, Songwon Industrial \(South Korea\)](#): UV Product Developments for TPO Automotive Applications
- [Presentation #18: Şerif Erdoğan, Elastron Kimya \(Turkey\)](#): Mechanical-Physical and Weathering Properties of New 'MATT SEBS' Series for Weatherseal Applications

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Day 3 Technical Program: Thursday, March 24, 2016

The last day of the conference begins with opening remarks and then immediately goes into the first of two technical sessions on **Process Developments** (with two presenters) and **Modeling & Measurement of Scratch Resistance** (with three presenters). A break separates the two sessions. After the last paper ends at noon local time, the conference ends for the year.

SESSION 7: PROCESS DEVELOPMENTS

- [Presentation #19](#): Professor Lih-Sheng (Tom) Turng, *University of Wisconsin–Madison (USA)*: Recent Developments of Microcellular Injection Molding
- [Presentation #20](#): Wu Jie, *JSR (Shanghai) Co. Ltd. (China)*: Bonding Properties & Structure between TPVs and EPDM Vulcanizates for Automotive Profiles

SESSION 8: MODELING & MEASUREMENT OF SCRATCH RESISTANCE

- [Presentation #21](#): R. Bagheri, *Parsa Polymer Sharif Co. (Iran)*: Correlating Scratch Visibility with Mechanical Behavior of TPO Compounds
- [Presentation #22](#): Dr. Sassan Tarahomi, *International Automotive Components Group (USA)*: TPO Scratch & Mar Predictability - Part 1: Simulation
- [Presentation #23](#): Dr. Sassan Tarahomi, *International Automotive Components Group (USA)*: TPO Scratch & Mar Predictability - Part 2: Building the Surface Characteristic Database

All presentations will be held in the **Shanghai Marriott City Centre hotel's Grand Ballroom-Salon 1A/1B**. Coffee breaks will be held in the **Grand Ballroom Foyer-Level 5**. Lunches and dinner receptions will be held in the **Shanghai Bistro-Level 3**.

To date, 26 sponsors are supporting the new event: **Gold Sponsors**: Advanced Composites, Inc., CIMBAR Performance Minerals, Elastron Kimya San. Tic. A.S., IMI Fabi SpA, Inteva Products LLC, and Trinseo LLC; **Exhibitors**: Americhem, Inc., ChengDu Silike Technology Co., Ltd., Haartz Corp., Reliable Analysis, Inc., REXTac LLC, and United Paint & Chemical Corp.; **Advertising Sponsor**: Vintech Industries, Inc.; and **Media/Association Sponsors**: Automotive Design & Production magazine, China Plastics & Rubber Journal (CPRJ) and CPRJ International, Industrias Plásticas, Journal of China Plastics, Noticiero del Plástico, Plastics Engineering magazine, Plastics Technology magazine, PrototypeToday.com, Reciclado y Plasticos, TheMoldingBlog.com, TPE magazine, and WardsAuto.com.

There are still sponsorship opportunities and exhibit spaces available for interested parties, who should contact Karen@ShanghaiTPO.com as soon as possible.

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About the Auto TPO & Shanghai TPO Conferences

Since 1998, the ***SPE TPO Automotive Engineered Polyolefins 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. Engineered polyolefins have been the fastest-growing segment of the global plastics industry for more than a decade owing to their excellent cost / performance ratio. The Detroit-area show typically draws over 700 attendees from 20 countries on four continents who are interested in learning about the latest in rigid and elastomeric TPO as well as TPE and TPV technologies. Approximately 300 attendees are expected at the new ***SPE Shanghai TPO Conference*** in Shanghai, China. A variety of sponsorship packages are available for companies interested in showcasing their products and / or services at either event. The Shanghai show is being jointly organized by volunteers from the ***Detroit Section*** and ***China Section*** of the ***Society of Plastics Engineers*** (SPE). For more information about the ***SPE Shanghai TPO Conference***, see <http://auto-tpo.com/> or <http://speautomotive.com/tpo.htm>.

The mission of SPE International is to promote scientific and engineering knowledge relating to plastics worldwide and to educate industry, academia, and the public about these advances. SPE's Detroit Section is active in educating, promoting, recognizing, and communicating technical accomplishments for all phases of plastics and plastic based-composite developments – particularly in the automotive industry. Topic areas include applications, materials, processing, equipment, tooling, design, and development. For more information on the Society of Plastics Engineers, see www.4spe.org.

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