



**Society of Plastics Engineers (*European Medical Polymers Division*)**  
**European Conference on Medical Polymers**  
**September 2–4, 2008**  
***Polymer Processing Research Centre, Queen's University Belfast.***

The Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) is organising the First European Medical Polymers Conference, at Queen's University Belfast, in September 2008. In keeping with the Society's aims and objectives, the Conference will focus on many of the technical issues associated with the processing and performance of polymers used in the medical device industry today. The medical device and health care industries worldwide are experiencing year on year growth, particularly in Europe, and the industry now uses an ever-increasing range of polymers, copolymers and polymer blends. These polymer materials, in their many different forms, play vital roles in the design, functionality and reliability of medical devices.

As well as having to comply with many rigorous regulatory protocols, the industry uses a wide range of polymer materials and many different manufacturing technologies, including mono and multilayer extrusions, mini and micro injection moulded components and thermoformed parts. Complex assembly operations using different bonding and welding techniques are also used extensively throughout the industry, as are a range of sterilisation methods. This Conference aims to address some of the technological challenges facing the industry by including presentations by invited keynote speakers who are leading experts in these various disciplines.

### ***The Conference***

This important event will also include technical presentation sessions and exhibitions. Additionally, Conference delegates can visit the many pilot-plant processing and analysis facilities in the Polymer Processing and Medical Polymer Research Centres at the University. Delegate registration will be on Wednesday, 3 September, from 10.30 am; presentations by keynote speakers begin at 2:00 pm (following lunch). A Conference dinner will be held on Wednesday night. Parallel technical sessions will be held on Thursday, 4 September, from 9.00 am onwards.

### ***Who Should Attend***

The Conference is specifically targeted at process engineers, technical managers and designers in the medical device industry, as well as processors already in the plastics conversion industry wishing to find out more about supplying into the medical device industry.

The continued success of many companies is generally due to the knowledge, expertise and experience of the process engineering and design staff. However, engineers do not always have the time or resources to carry out meaningful development programmes using new-generation materials and processes. Information regarding the processing and performance of some of these materials is often not readily available. This Conference wishes to start to address some of these issues.

### ***Call For Papers***

Papers are invited on the following themes:

*Polymers for Medical Device and Health Care Applications*  
*Processing of Medical Polymers*  
*Materials in Medical Device Packaging*  
*Assembly of Medical Devices and Health Care Products*  
*Sterilisation and Antimicrobial Additives*  
*Biomedical Engineering and Biopolymers*

***Please send the paper title, speaker's name and affiliation, and a 75-word abstract, by email, to Gerry McNally at [g.mcnally@qub.ac.uk](mailto:g.mcnally@qub.ac.uk) by 1 April 2008.***  
***Full paper to be submitted by 31 May 2008.***  
***(Full Conference Timetable to follow shortly.)***

