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## **STUDENTS TO SEE FIRSTHAND THAT PLASTICS ARE WICKED COOL**

*National Plastics Center and Museum to teach area students  
about plastics with PlastiVan™ program*

**BOSTON, MA** – The National Plastics Center and Museum's (NPCM) PlastiVan™ program is going to show area schoolchildren everything about plastics at the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) annual technical conference, SPE-ANTEC 2005. This year's conference will be held at the Hynes Convention Center from May 1 through May 5.

Students from Cathedral Elementary School and Mother Caroline School will visit SPE-ANTEC to participate in the PlastiVan™ program, an internationally acclaimed education program geared for students in grades three through twelve.

"The PlastiVan program communicates a total awareness of plastics to our participants in a fun and entertaining way," said Marjorie Weimer, NPCM's assistant director and outreach director. "The students will get an understanding of conventional and unconventional plastic products."

The National Plastics Center and Museum's PlastiVans™ travel throughout the United States, teaching students, educators and the public about the chemistry, history, processing and environmental issues involved with plastics. Participants receive hands-on science and technology lessons and get to see machinery in action.

SPE, sponsor of SPE-ANTEC 2005, is delighted the PlastiVan™ program will appear at this year's annual technical conference.

"The PlastiVan program is a tremendous conduit to inform children of the plastics industry and perhaps interest them in a career as a plastics professional," said Susan Oderwald, executive director for SPE.

### **About National Plastics Center and Museum**

The National Plastics Center and Museum (NPCM) is a non-profit institution dedicated to preserving the past, addressing the present, and promoting the future of plastics through public education and awareness. Established in 1982, the NPCM opened its headquarters and museum at Leominster, Massachusetts in 1992. The educational staff of the NPCM conducts hands-on science programming for schools and organizations, as well as demonstrations for visitors to the museum. For more information, please visit [www.plasticsmuseum.com](http://www.plasticsmuseum.com).

**About SPE**

The Society of Plastics Engineers, Inc. (SPE) is the premier source of peer-reviewed technical information for plastics professionals. Originally incorporated in 1942, SPE takes action every day to help companies in the plastics industry succeed by spreading knowledge, strengthening skills and promoting plastics. Employing these vital strategies, SPE has helped the plastics industry thrive for over 60 years. SPE has become the recognized medium of communication among scientists, engineers and technical personnel engaged in the development, conversion and application of plastics. For more information, please visit [www.4spe.org](http://www.4spe.org).

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