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Students To See Firsthand That Plastics Are Really Cool

National Plastics Center to teach area students about plastics with PlastiVan™ program at SPE-ANTEC

CINCINNATI, OH – The National Plastics Center’s (NPC) PlastiVan™ program is going to show area schoolchildren everything about plastics at the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) annual technical conference, SPE-ANTEC 2007. This year’s conference will be held at the Duke Energy Center from May 6 through May 10.

On Tuesday, May 8th at 11 a.m., students in the 8th grade from the St. Joseph School of Cincinnati will visit SPE-ANTEC to participate in the PlastiVan™ program, an internationally acclaimed education program geared for students in grades three through twelve. There are four PlastiVans that are based in the Midwest, West Coast, Northeast, and Southeast. On Wednesday, May 9th at 10 a.m., 7th and 8th students from the Prince of Peace Catholic School of Covington, KY will also participate in the PlastiVan program, as will 5th and 6th grade students from the same school on Thursday, May 10th at 9:30 a.m.

“The PlastiVan program communicates a total awareness of plastics to our participants in a fun and entertaining way,” said Marjorie Weiner, NPC’s senior outreach educator “The students will get an understanding of conventional and unconventional plastic products.”

The National Plastics Center’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 2006, 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.

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About National Plastics Center

The National Plastics Center provides sound scientific and educational programs which increase the public's knowledge of the valuable contributions that plastics make in the quality of our lives. For more information, please visit www.plasticscenter.org.

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.

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