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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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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*

**Milwaukee, WI** – 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 2008. This year's conference will be held at the Midwest Airlines Center from May 4 through May 8.

On Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m., students in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade from the St. Mary's School in Elm Grove 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 7<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m., 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students from the St. Bernadette's Elementary School in Milwaukee will also participate in the PlastiVan program.

“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 2008, 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](http://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](http://www.4spe.org).

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