



Call for Technical Presentations

Deadline for 50-Word Abstract: March 1, 2015

Deadline for Presentations: April 8, 2015 - No Paper Required

Submit abstracts to:

Sandra McClelland
Chevron Phillips Chemical
mccles@cpchem.com

Program Scope

The Detroit Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) invites you to attend a 1-day technical conference & exhibition showcasing innovative developments in the design, materials, processing, and use of engineering plastics for the global automotive industry.

Who Should Attend

This conference is specifically designed to inform, update and educate the OEM and supplier communities about advances in both thermoset and thermoplastic engineering polymers. Learn how these widely used materials can help improve performance and productivity, while reducing cost and mass.

Presentations

Hear technical presentations on the newest advances in engineering materials related to: design engineering; materials development; lighting; thermal management; processing and enabling technologies; predictive engineering; new applications and more.

Exhibits

See exhibits from engineering plastic suppliers, molders, compounders, additives and reinforcement suppliers, design and engineering firms, and machinery suppliers. Experts will show you how to apply the latest technologies to your next project or program.

Conference includes full day of technical presentations, plenary and keynote presentations on automotive business trends, lunch and coffee breaks, exhibits of advanced technologies and evening reception.

www.speautomotive.com/emc.htm

Questions? Contact:

Sue Wojnicki
Society of Plastics Engineers
swojnicki@4spe.org
+1 203.775.0471



Volume 59 ▲ Number 3

DETROIT SECTION - SOCIETY OF PLASTICS ENGINEERS - "THE CHARTER CHAPTER"

November 2014



TRENDS & TOPICS



President's Message

Dr. Sassan Tarahomi, IAC Group
President

Volunteerism - My fellow SPE friends, I want to tell you about my out of this world experience few weeks back at Delta College. This was one of those events that you have to be there and experience it yourself firsthand. Event was Mind Trekkers fully sponsored by Dow and supported by Michigan Tech University. Beside Dow and Michigan Tech, many other companies, government organizations and universities attended this event. It was a mega dose of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) in a short period. The vent was designed to teach middle school students about science in a fun and game format. The event was an all day Friday and Saturday. Friday was designated for middle school kids and their teachers. Saturday was open to the public, where parents bring their kids from all ages to learn about STEM.

When I heard about the event, I felt it is too much commitment and of course, I will have to take a day off from work and lose my relaxing Saturday spending time with family and friends. However, since I am the section president, a little voice in my head reminded me that buck stops here and it is all up to me to get engaged rather than standing aside and hear about it from others. Few from our board were already working on

signing-up Plastivan for this event but they wanted few more members to attend the event and tell the kids about SPE and what we do. After a day of debating this, I did commit to attend on Friday and set-up a table next to Plastivan and bring few automotive parts and resins with me to show the kids going through our booth. I also asked few other Detroit Section board members to attend as well.

After about 2 hours of drive due to massive bridge construction few miles before my exit, I arrived at Delta College around 9: 00 AM and found my table next to Plastivan and luckily two student volunteers from MSU SPE Chapter were waiting for me to help set up and running the booth.



MSU SPE Chapter Student Volunteers at
Mind Trekkers

Doors opened up to students at 9:30 AM. It was like a flood gate opened and students instead of water were pouring into the building. All of a sudden I noticed 100's of students filling-up the hall ways and many stopping by our booth to learn about plastics.



Delta college gym was converted to a hall full of fun and experiments

Our Plastivan instructor got into action quickly and started showing the kids about Polymer chain and how cross linking strengthens the chain as well as dissolving Polystyrene cup in few ounces of solvents and few other cool stuff.



Dow robot asking challenging questions from Plastivan instructor

I realized I have to kick-it up a notch and get these kids interested, therefore started my ice breaker line with who drinks milk in the morning and what

do they do with the plastic milk jug after milk is all gone. Of course I had ground-up un-washed smelly HDPE milk containers on hand to show them what was the next step after they recycle the jug. Kids who raised their hand for recycling received a few pellets of my super secret glow in the dark resin which I activated with UV laser light before they departed from our booth. At this time they smelled the bag of smelly sour milk resin and wanted more challenging part. So I raised the bar and showed them a compounded clean sweat smelling of beautiful black HDPE pellets and told them this is what happens to the smelly ground up particles and better yet, I take these perfect size and shape pellets and make a SUV load floor from them. At this point, I pull out the 4'x3' foldable blow molded HDPE load floor from under the table and told them about the super strength of the part and challenged them on who can break my load floor by jumping on it. You can imagine next, I had dozen kids jumping on my super strong load floor and to their amazement no one could even cause a dent into it. However on Saturday afternoon one of the kids came back with his 6'8" 300 lbs dad and asked him to jump on my load floor just to show me that my part was not unbreakable. Well, my part didn't break but I did stop his dad's fun after few jump because other adults were getting into the action and wanted to take a crack at my super strong recycled HDPE load floor. I did report this great and very successful durability test performance to our blow molded load floor engineers and congratulate them on their part design.

My blown air bag assembly, various glow in the dark pellets, parts and plaques plus my own SPE shirt made of 100% recycled plastics provided me with tons of more material to mesmerize these

young minds. My fellow MSU students learned my stories very quickly and added few of their own and made it very exciting and fun for kids going through our booth.



Dr. Norm Kakarala observing train the trainer.



My newly trained instructors hard at work, while I was observing and enjoying the transition.



Dr. Kakarala our emeritus board member greeting the friendly neighborhood Dow robot.



Detroit Section SPE executive board members with Plastivan instructor and MSU students

By the time the event was over around 4:00 PM on Saturday, over 7,500 young minds attended the event and may be close to 5000 visited our Plastivan and the Detroit Section booth. In my drive home that early evening I remembered how lousy I felt earlier that week about how I was going to spend my Friday and Saturday and now I felt like I was 12 again and I couldn't wait till this super explosive event is back in town. I tell you my friends I was the one who enjoyed it the most and I was the one came ahead at the end.

This event was truly an out of this world experience and I love to see you all get into action and enjoy as well. Trust me, you'll be glad you signed-up.

“Action starts with you, so sign up for any of our upcoming Detroit Section events and see how much fun you’ll have”

Looking forward to see you in our upcoming events.

Let the fun begin!

Yours truly,

Sassan Tarahomi
President, SPE Detroit Section



Coming Events

April 10, 2015
Material Auction
MGM Grand Detroit

May 5, 2015
AutoEPCON
Troy Marriott

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 Tom Miller at
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Schedules for this school
 year visits are being made
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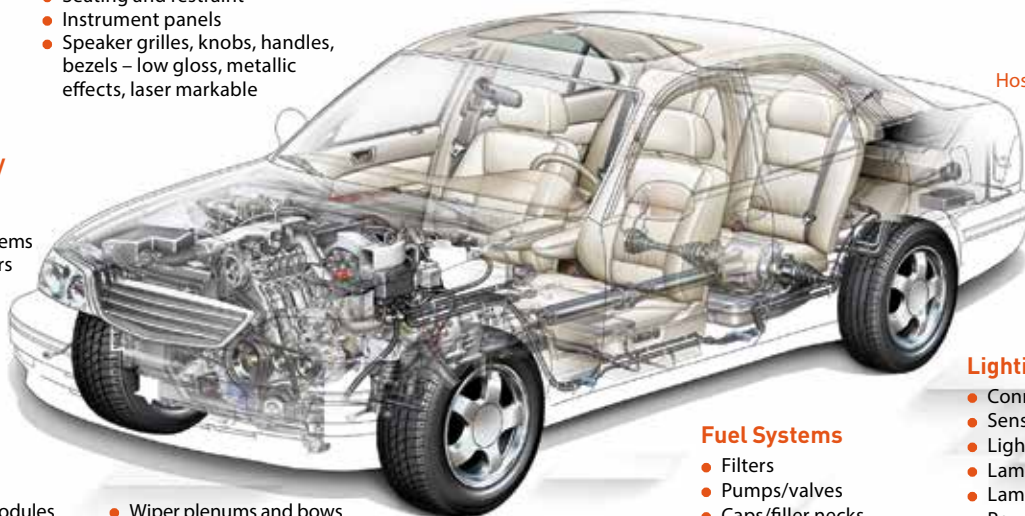
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OCT 5-8, 2014



Bill Windscheif
Co-Chair TPO Conference

The 16th annual SPE TPO Automotive Engineered Polyolefins Conference was held at the Troy Marriott October 5th through the 8th, 2014. This year's conference set another attendance record with approximately 800 registered participants. The conference theme, ***TPO Gateway to Innovations***, was highlighted in the technical program which ran in three concurrent sessions and was outstanding with 71 technical papers and presentations. Each morning the program began with keynote presentations by leading industry executives. A total of five keynote speeches were delivered. The topics included how the industry will achieve

the government-mandated fuel economy by 2025, advantages offered to the plastics industry by shale gas, how innovative new materials are creating new application opportunities, and future growth of TPO usage in vehicle interiors.

The conference has truly become a global event, attracting attendees from eighteen countries. The attendees consisted of about thirty eight percent OEMs with the balance from Tier 1 and supplier companies. After talking with conference sponsors and exhibitors as well as attendees, it is obvious that the conference is providing great value to the automotive and plastics industry. This is because the entire TPO supply chain is represented, and the venue provides the perfect opportunity to network and conduct business. Several attendees said they were able to accomplish in three days what would normally take many months. Therefore by all measures, this year's conference was a resounding success.

Two reasons for the conference's success are the hard work and dedication of the TPO Committee and the fact that the sponsors and exhibitors were at record levels. The committee is made up of industry representatives who provide an extraordinary amount of non-profit volunteer effort each year. As a result of their efforts, this event has grown into the world's largest automotive polyolefins forum. The latest trends and technologies were presented in eight technical sessions:

- Interior Soft Trim: Skins & Foam
- Advances in Automotive Polyolefins
- Bio-Based Materials
- Lightweighting of Polyolefin Parts
- Surface Enhancements
- Rigid Polyolefin Compounds
- Adhesives and Coating for TPOs
- Thermoforming of TPO Materials

In addition to the technical sessions, the conference provided additional networking opportunities at two evening receptions hosted by ExxonMobil Chemical Company and SABIC.

The conference also hosts the “Most Innovative Parts Award” contest. This year two awards were presented. The winner of the interior category is the Nissan Sentra instrument panel skin using Sunvieto High MFR TPV from Asahi Kasei, Inc. The winner of the exterior category is the 2014 Nissan Rouge liftgate, the first North American all olefinic liftgate. The outer panel material is a LyondellBasell TPO, and the inner panel is an Advanced Composites, Inc., long glass PP.

Next year’s TPO Conference will again be held at the Troy Marriott and is scheduled for October 4th through 7th, 2015. For additional information, visit the TPO Conference website at www.Auto-TPO.com or call 248-244-8993, ext. 3. Mark your calendars now!



Bill Windscheif opens the 16th annual TPO Conference at the Troy Marriott



**2014 TPO Conference had record attendance
with approximately 800 registered attendees**



**Record number of Sponsors and Exhibitors
Entire TPO supply chain in attendance**



**Jeff Valentage, ExxonMobil Chemical Co.
presents appreciation plaque to Doug
Pickett, General Motors Co., after
outstanding keynote presentation**



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Council Meeting - Part 2

Sandra McClelland
Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LP

During the last council meeting, the councilors formed work group break-out sessions to discuss and debate three questions. The questions were in the following areas: 1) Value, 2) Membership Pricing, and 3) Governance. I thought it would be good to get the memberships ideas about these three items. Here are the questions for each area:

Question 1: Value

- Do you get enough value for your member dues?
- Do you think a regular SPE member (non-leader-non 'engaged' person) gets enough value for his/her member dues?
- What are the top 3 benefits of membership for the standard member (non-leader)?
- Which benefit should we improve? Give only one.
- Which benefit should we add (that we do not have today) and that you think will attract lots of people to join SPE? Give only one.

Question 2: Membership Pricing

- Should we introduce an e-member type which is FREE and has only limited benefit
- Should we increase the price of membership? If so, how much?

Question 3: Governance

- How should we move to a 10 person board?
- Should we go to council representation WITH VOTING RIGHTS that reflects minimum membership number? Thus councilors below a certain threshold have no rights or the more members you are representing the more votes.

I believe that an important part of being your councilor is to represent the membership. If you could send me your thoughts on any of these questions, I will compile the responses and report in a future newsletter. If you have any suggestions to improve the value of your membership please include those too. I look forward to your questions and comments.



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November 2014 Technical Program Report

Dr. Sassan Tarahomi, IAC Group

My dear SPE members, as I am writing this article I am getting ready for our first Next Gen event scheduled for Monday, October 20, 2014 at Best Western, Starlings Inn. I hope to see you at the event. We had quite an event at Delta College. You can read about it in the first few pages under President's Message.

Here is the list of our upcoming events. Don't forget to mark your calendar and make reservation with Mrs. Karen Rhodes-Parker at (248) 244-8993 extension 3.

#	Date	Event	Location
1	October 20, 2014	TDM / How to Attract Next Generation of Engineers	Best Western, Sterlings Inn Sterling Heights
2	December, 2014	Toys Donation Program	American Chemistry Council Troy
3	January 26, 2015	Future City	Suburban Collection Novi
4	February 23, 2015	TDM & Plant Tour Intellicosting	Intellicosting Plant Troy
5	March 16, 2015	TDM / Plastics Program at MMCC	Mid Michigan Community College Harrison
6	April 10, 2015	Material Auction	MGM Grand Hotel and Casino Detroit
7	May 5, 2015	2015 Auto EPCON	Detroit Marriott - Troy Troy
8	May 11, 2015	TDM & Plant Tour	HiTech Tool Sterling Heights
9	June 2015	Turner Alfrey Visiting Professor Program	Michigan Molecular Institute Midland
10	June 2015	Technical Dinner Meeting	Michigan Molecular Institute Midland
11	June 23, 2015	Golf Outing	Bay Pointe Golf Club West Bloomfield

Your technical program chair,

Sassan Tarahomi
Detroit Section
Technical Program Chair



Education Committee Update

Sandra McClelland
Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LP

Volunteers Needed for Education program

In September a group of students from local universities participated in a two day STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) event at Delta College. This event was put on by Michigan Tech's MindTrekks who arrange to have students in the area come in for exhibits. The age ranges from 4 years old through high school. Many board members of the Detroit Section along with a representative from the PlastiVan, the local colleges, representatives from DOW, and other SPE members participated in a display introducing plastics. This was a great event and a huge success. Here is a link to this program at Michigan Tech. <http://www.mindtrekkers.mtu.edu/index.php>

We are looking to help add more plastics into the upcoming events. Upcoming programs in our area are:

- Detroit – Joe Louis arena December 28 and 29, 2014
- Livonia Schoolcraft College – October 9 and 10, 2015
- Delta College – TBD

They also have a summer camp where we might be able to work with them.

We need volunteers for a variety of items for these programs.

- Put together a program with exciting short plastic experiments and/or possible display items that the students will enjoy.
- Volunteers to be at the events to answer questions and demonstrate the plastics.

If you are willing to volunteer, please contact me at mccles@cpchem.com. This is a very rewarding event and we hope to expand SPE Detroit Section's interaction.





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SPE Detroit Section Plant Tour Intellicosting, LLC

Date: Monday, February 23, 2015

Time: 5:00 – 8:00 PM

Location: Intellicosting, LLC

980 Chicago Road

Troy, Michigan 48083

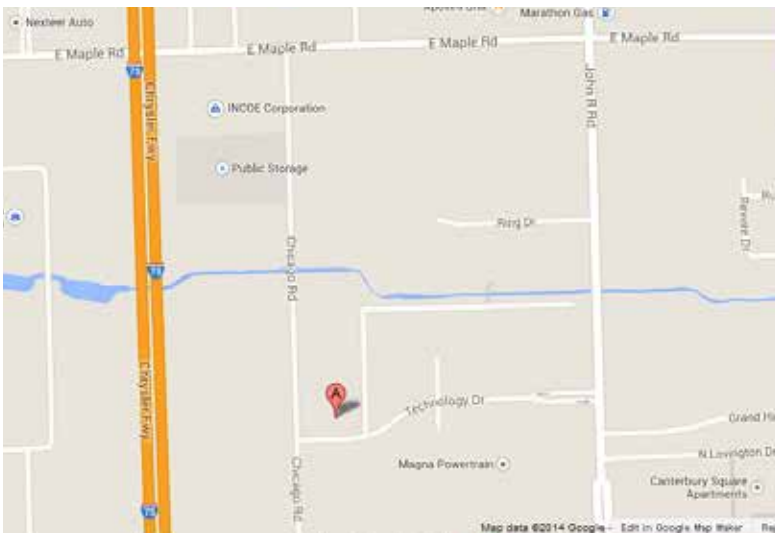
Phone (248)597-3422

Agenda:

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| 5:00 PM | Arrival and Networking |
| 5:30 PM | Pizza / Sandwich |
| 6:00 PM | Intellicosting Presentation |
| 7:00 PM | Facilities Review |
| 8:00 PM | Program Ends |

Cost: Free to students, University faculties and SPE members, non members \$10

Direction Map:



Please RSVP with Ms. Karen Rhodes-Parker at Karen@spedetroit.com or call at 248-244-8993 Ext. 3



SPE Detroit Section Mid Michigan Community College Plastics Program

Date: Monday, March 16, 2015

Time: 5:00 – 8:00 PM

Location: Mid Michigan Community College

Harrison Campus

1375 S. Clare Avenue

Harrison, Michigan 48625

Contact: Steven Fosgard

Cell: 989-386-6620

Agenda:

- | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 5:30 PM | Arrival and Networking |
| 6:00 PM | Dinner |
| 6:30 PM | Plastics Program Presentation |
| 7:00 PM | Plastics Labs and Facilities Review |
| 8:00 PM | Program Ends |

Cost: Free to students, faculties and SPE members.

Direction: 2 hours and 45 minutes drive from Troy to MMCC - Harrison Campus



Please RSVP with Ms. Karen Rhodes-Parker at Karen@spedetroit.com or call at 248-244-8993 Ext. 3



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Please email or call for information on other Sponsorship opportunities or less than full year rates after October 1st.

Membership Note

Even though you are a member of SPE International, you are not a member of the Detroit Section unless you have selected Michigan-Detroit as one of your technical groups. Members of SPE are entitled to select two Sections and/or Divisions at no charge, and to add additional groups for only \$10/year. There are many benefits in having Michigan-Detroit as one of your groups.

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e-Communications

Irv Poston – General Motors (retired)

First-Look at The Chain by SPE

The Detroit Section Board has been given a first-look at the new interactive communications site that is being developed by SPE International. Board members are expected to fully utilize and experience the capability of this uniquely specific site which is scheduled to be available to the entire SPE membership at the beginning of 2015.



The Chain is an exciting new online community platform being developed by SPE to enhance your membership experience. The Chain will provide tools for you to:

- Share information
- Ask for help
- Discuss problems
- Exchange lessons learned
- Search for information
- Stay connected with other SPE members.

The Chain will offer all SPE Members the ability to participate in a variety of forums (called “**Places**”) where you can ask questions, offer advice, or simply maintain awareness of subjects that are of interest to you. **Tech Talk** is the **Place** for members to request or share technical information in a moderated and professional environment. Look for the number of **Places** available in The Chain to grow as the user base is expanded.

The Chain’s responsive user interface automatically adjusts to your screen size as does the [SPE International website](#) and the [Detroit Section website](#). Regardless of whether you are using a desktop, a tablet, or even your smartphone, The Chain will be ready to keep you connected. Designed with your needs in mind, The Chain will offer you the ability to customize your level of engagement. You may choose to stay connected in real time or through daily condensed updates. The Chain will be ready when you are!

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Be sure to bookmark as favorites and/or have logos and apps to easily visit our many sites on the web. Here are links to a few of them. Be sure to click “like” and add comments on our Social Media announcements.

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Term Ending 6/2015	Term Ending 6/2016	Term Ending 6/2017	Administrative
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