



Thermoplastic Elastomers

Special Interest Group

September 2015

TPE SIG MEMBERS AND INDUSTRY COLLEAGUES

First I would like to thank Jeff Munro the former TPE SIG Chairman and all the TPE SIG Board members for the excellent work in the past two years that Jeff was Chairman.

2015 has been a great year to improve our technical skills and enhance our network in the thermoplastic elastomers industry.

ANTEC/NPE 2015 was held in Orlando and Topcon 2014 was held in Akron. Special thanks to the TPE SIG Board members for their efforts in organizing the technical sessions.

The TPE SIG provided funding for the Plastivan to visit schools in the Detroit area. We believe that some of the next generation engineers, scientist and teachers might be the ones participating in those training classes.

TPE SIG will award grants again this year to students with documented experience in Thermoplastic Elastomers.

Our Board Members are actively involved in planning the next technical meetings: ANTEC 2016 and TOPCON 2016.

Hope that you will attend.

Iani Manas
TPE SIG Chainman 2015-2016

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TPE Recaps

ANTEC® 2015



The TPE SIG session at the ANTEC® 2015 had 9 papers presented. Each paper was well attended with an average of 50 in the audience. Stephane Morin the Technical Paper Coordinator (TPC) was also the moderator for the session. Thanks to Stephane for the time and effort spent putting this program together.

We also want to thank the presenters for making the time to prepare and present their work at this session. The topics varied from developments with styrene block copolymers, olefinic block copolymers, thermoplastic polyurethanes and thermoplastic polyester elastomers.

Here Comes ANTEC 2016!

Take note also that the time is here to think about submitting a paper for the ANTEC® 2016.

The Technical Program Coordinator for the 2016 TPE SIG sessions is Mukul Kaushik who is a new member of the TPE SIG. ANTEC 2016 will be in Indianapolis from May 23-25.

For further information, visit:

www.antec.ws

Introducing our Newest TPE SIG Board Member

Welcome our newest TPE SIG Board member and current ANTEC 2016 TPC, **Dr. Mukul Kaushik**. Dr. Kaushik is an R & D Scientist for Celanese- Engineered Materials. His role includes innovation within the engineering thermoplastic product family.



His area of expertise includes: polymer physics, structure-properties relationships and polymer compounding. His current focus is on applications and formulation development for PBT, PET, PPS, copolyester elastomers and their blends.

Dr. Kaushik received his Master of Technology from the Center of Polymer Science and Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi and his Doctorate from the School of Polymers and High Performance Materials at the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg.

Support From Our Industry



Thanks to the **Celanese Corporation** for allowing Dr. Mukul Kaushik to serve on the TPE SIG Board of Directors

Based in Dallas, Texas, Celanese Corporation is a global technology leader in the production of differentiated chemistry solutions and specialty materials used in most major industries and consumer applications. With sales almost equally divided between North America, Europe and Asia, the company uses the full breadth of its global chemistry, technology and business expertise to create value for customers and the corporation. Celanese partners with customers to solve their most critical needs while making a positive impact on its communities and the world.

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TPE TopCon 2016



Announcement for this next TPE TopCon.

Bill Blasius and Dr. Mark Berard will again coordinate the technical program for this TopCon.

The conference is set for September 13-15 at the Fairlawn Hilton in Ohio. Paper submissions open in October 2015.

The SPE Akron Section will again team with the TPE SIG and be involved with coordinating the logistics of the conference.

2015 TPE Scholarships



The Scholarship Committee has received 13 applications from students requesting scholarship money.

This is a major increase compared to the 5 applications received in 2014.

The scholarship committee will be targeting to announce their selections to the TEP SIG Board by the end of September.



The plastics industry needs more young people to be part of the plastics industry labor market!

Bring the PlastiVan™ program to your area.

The average age of the people working in the plastics industry is 56 years. This obviously means that there will be many who will be retiring in the coming years with not enough younger people to replace them. The students coming out of our high schools at this time know very little if anything about the career opportunities in the plastics industry. Actually many come out of high school with a negative opinion of plastics and manufacturing in general.

There is a way you and your company or organization can change this. Help sponsor a PlastiVan™ visit to your local high school or junior high or middle school. This mobile chemistry program will emphasize the positive aspect of plastics and also introduce the young students to the career possibilities they can look forward to. More information can be gotten from the link below concerning the PlastiVan™ program.

<http://www.4spe.org/Leadership/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=6500>



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The TPE SIG is always looking for new Board members to help with planning and execution of various SIG activities such as ANTEC® sessions, the TPE TOPCON, scholarship programs, and PlastiVan™ visits. The TPE SIG Board meets face-to-face at ANTEC® every year, at the TPE TOPCON every other year, and by teleconference every six to eight weeks in between. As an incoming member, we ask for a three-year commitment from you and your employer. In return, we provide good networking opportunities and a word of appreciation for your company in one of our newsletters. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Tom Bell at +1 281-990-0909 or tomebell@aol.com.