



Technical Interest Group



January 2022

### LETTER FROM THE CHAIR — BRAD GUILANI

Dear Fellow Members of the TPE Industry,

We are now approaching two years since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic which continues to impact many lives in the US and around the world. The current vaccines have proven to be the best defense against serious illness from the pandemic. As vaccination rates continue to improve in USA and globally, I hope all readers of this newsletter have either been or considering to be fully vaccinated. Our thoughts are prayers are with our interest group members who have been affected by COVID-19.

We have two opportunities to meet virtually or face-to-face in 2022. Our first event is ANTEC 2022 which will return as an in-person event in Charlotte, North Carolina, on June 14-15. As I understand, there will be a virtual component to ANTEC 2022 as well. Dr. Krishnan lyer has been the Technical Program Chair for the TPE session of ANTEC 2022. The paper submission deadline was in November, and I look forward to reviewing papers submitted for our TPE session by our interest group's members.

Our next opportunity to meet in-person in 2022 is TOPCON which is the premier US-based technical conference fully dedicated to TPE's. Our TOPCON subcommittee, together with the SPE Akron Section, has been busy planning for this hybrid event which will be held in Akron, Ohio, in September 2022. The theme for TOPCON 2022 will be "TPE's: unmasked" as proposed by TIG board member and past TOPCON chair Bill Blasius. Please look for the paper submission link in this newsletter and make plans to attend this highly informative event in 2022. We will offer the ever-popular TPE primer on the first day of TOPCON to help educate TPE new-comers.

Our TIG's mission is to promote knowledge and sharing of technical information about TPE's within our interest group and greater technical community, especially among students and young engineers. I am pleased to report that we have to-date awarded 80 scholarships totaling nearly \$200K. Our latest awardees are Steacy Coombs, Isabella Gayoso, and Mackenzie Roach whom you can read about in this newsletter. I thank Ed Tam and his subcommittee for their outstanding job of identifying these well-deserving scholarship recipients.

Please feel free to share this newsletter with your colleagues and encourage them to join our TIG. I welcome your comments and look forward to connecting with you at an upcoming event.

Warmest regards,

Brad Guilani
Technical Fellow, Otis Elevator Company



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### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR CORNER**

Welcome to the Spring 2022 edition of the TPE TIG newsletter. As we continued to endure challenges related to COVID in 2021, we did our best to maintain the activities of our TIG. I appreciate the efforts of all Board Members.

Reflecting on 2021, we had two long serving Board members electing to step down. We would like to thank Bob Wegelin and Stephane Morin for their service to the TIG and SPE and wish them the very best in future.

I would like to thank the many contributors to this newsletter edition- Ed Tam for the Scholarship report, Tom Bell for the Membership Committee report and Homaira Naseem for the 2022 TOPCON update. You will also find information on the TPE Newsletter and TPE Magazine- both are very good resources to stay abreast with trends and developments in the TPE industry.

I am looking forward to returning to normalcy in 2022 and attending the TOPCON in Akron and other SPE events in person.

Santosh Bawiskar TPE SIG Newsletter Editor



# SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

Would you like to submit an article for the next newsletter?

Please contact: Santosh Bawiskar at sbawiskar@dow.com





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#### BOB WEGELIN & STEPHANE MORIN FLECT TO STEP DOWN FROM TPF TIG BOARD

After serving for decades on the TPE TIG (formerly SIG) board, Bob Wegelin and Stephane Morin have elected to step down. We appreciate the valued service and contributions from both over these years and their role in establishing the TPE TIG. We wish them good luck in all their future endeavors.



### **Bob Wegelin**

Bob spent over 55 years in the plastic industry which included 10 years in color matching, physical testing and 25 years in PVC. He then worked with polyolefin's, urethanes, TPE's and TPV's. He worked in marketing of PET & PETG for soft drink and non-soft drink bottles and did formulation work in material compounding and quality control. He spent 22 years in TPV's in international marketing and technical service and managed quality control and testing laboratories with as many as 25 people reporting to him. He covered the Pacific Rim for four years as International Manager. He also served thrice as President of Akron, Ohio Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers.



## **Stephane Morin**

Stephane is an experienced entrepreneur with a demonstrated history of working in the thermoplastic industry. He has worked for over 30 years in Sales, International Business, Business Development, and Thermoplastic Elastomers (TPU, TPV, TPE). He has a Bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering from Polytechnique Montreal and a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) degree, specializing in International Business, from the University of Phoenix.



Stephane Morin receiving plaque from Armando Sardanopoli



Plaque awarded to Bob Wegelin



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### THERMOPLASTIC ELASTOMERS CONFERENCE

### Akron, OH - September 20-22, 2022

Presented by the Thermoplastic Elastomers Technical Interest Group and SPE Akron Section

#### **CALL FOR PAPERS - TPEs Unmasked!**

The TPE TIG and Akron Section of SPE invite the submission of abstracts for presentation at the 15th TPE TOPCON.

Linking the needs of today with the technology of the future.

Focused segments on TPE include:

- Current Trends in Markets and Technology
- Material Innovation and New Application Development
- Process Innovation (Compounding, Extrusion, Molding, 3D Printing)
- Healthcare and Medical Automotive and Transportation
- Sustainability

Please submit presentation title, abstract, author/presenter and affiliation to:

#### Homaira Naseem

homaira.naseem@alphagary.com, (978) 840-2124

#### Nicholas DeLuca

nicholas.deluca@lubrizol.com, (570) 441-6594

#### Hoan Tran

hoan.tran@kuraray.com, (281) 224-3205

#### **Abstract Deadline:**

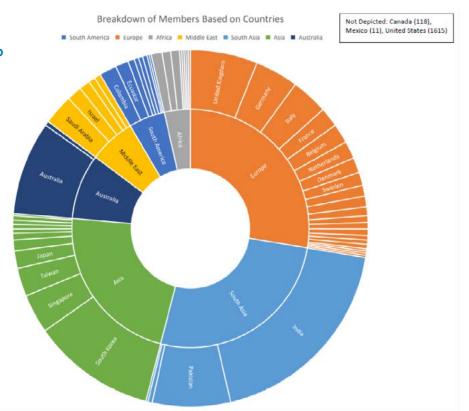
February 28, 2022

#### **Completed Presentation Due:**

July 15, 2022

# REPORT FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE BY TOM BELL

Greetings from the membership committee. We have updated our graphics to provide a different look at the composition of our membership. Not much has changed, but graphics are more appealing. We will take another look at membership data in 2022. In 2022 we will revisit our membership data and look at changes that have occurred since our last report.







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### SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

The Scholarship Committee consists of Edwin Tam (Chair), Iani Manas, Mukul Kaushik, Nicholas Deluca, and Armando Sardanopoli. The committee is glad to announce the 2021 SPE TPE TIG Scholarship recipients; they are Steacy Coombs, Mackenzie Roach, and Isabella Gayoso. Each received a \$1000 award.



Steacy Coombs: MS student in Chemical Engineering at Queen's University, she is studying the effect of polymer branching on processability and rheological properties. Her GPA is 3.46. She was an intern at DuPont. So far, she has a total of 3 publications.



Mackenzie Roach: B.S. a student in Chemical Engineering at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA, she expected to graduate in May 2022. Her GPA is 3.71/4.0. She was an intern at DuPont. At school, she was a research Assistant studying polymer behavior with modifications such as additives and blowing agents. Mackenzie was nominated as Virginia Tech Aspirations Fellow, participated in the Design Team and was on Dean's List for several semesters.



Isabella Gayoso: A dual majors, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and BS in Aerospace Engineering student at Penn State University. Her GPA is 3.93/4.00. She expected to graduate in May 2023. She interned at SpaceX (CA) and also worked as Process and Quality Engineering at Brentwood Industries, PA. Currently she is an undergraduate Research Assistant on film research. She received numerous honors at school, she received Honors Engineering Design Teaching Assistant award and outstanding Junior Award in Mechanical Engineering Department.





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### **ABOUT TPE MAGAZINE:**

**TPE MAGAZINE** is the world's first and only technical magazine dedicated exclusively to thermoplastic elastomers (TPE). It covers topics related to the entire TPE supply chain from raw materials and compounds to processing. The magazine is distributed worldwide. The content includes technical and application orientated papers as well as reports, scientific abstracts, interviews, technology and product news, show reports, and book reviews.

**TPE MAGAZINE** is valued as a reliable source of information for the TPE supply chain from raw material suppliers, compounders, to TPE processors, machinery and plant suppliers to OEMs in industries such as automotive, medical & pharma, E & E, sports & leisure, shoes industries, building & construction and many more.

For the global TPE community we offer a variety of digital platforms that optimally complement and expand the information offered in the printed magazine. These include a newsletter, daily updated online news, whitepapers, professional communication via our social media networks and, last but not least, our knowledge archive spanning several decades.

#### **Contact:**

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### THE TPE NEWSLETTER

Subscribe to the TPE Newsletter for free, and receive bi-weekly important news of the global TPE industry directly to your email account.

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# WANT TO JOIN TPE BOARD OR BECOME A MEMBER?

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