

For Immediate Release: 25 OCTOBER 2022

Media Contact: Teri Chouinard, SPE Thermoset TopCon Event Manager, 248.701.8003, teri@intuitgroup.com

SPE® THERMOSET DIV. ANNOUNCES CALL FOR PAPERS, SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS FOR THERMOSET TOPCON MAY 9 – 10, 2023 IN MADISON, WISCONSIN

"THERMOSETS: INITIATING OPPORTUNITIES -

FOR NEW PRODUCTS, BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGIES, SUPPLIERS, JOBS/EMPLOYEES, GROWTH & FUN!"

The SPE Thermoset Div. is announcing its call for papers, exhibitors, and sponsors for their annual event to be held on May 9 - 10, 2023 at the Monona Terrace and Convention Center in Madison, Wisconsin.

"THERMOSETS: INITIATING OPPORTUNITIES – FOR NEW PRODUCTS, BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGIES, SUPPLIERS, JOBS/EMPLOYEES, GROWTH & FUN!" is the theme for the 2023 event. "This year's theme highlights how thermoset technology and the TopCon event both "initiate" great opportunities to improve your products and business overall," said Sean Campbell, sales and marketing manager, Engineered Composites at LyondellBasell and SPE Thermoset Div. Chair. "Thermoset plastics are the most durable, versatile and attractive materials for automotive; air and ground transportation; off-highway equipment; medical; appliance; oil and gas; and a wide variety of other applications where structural integrity, lightweighting and heat and corrosion resistance are important," continued Campbell. "The 2023 SPE Thermoset TopCon is returning to Madison, Wisconsin where it started in 1954 with the University of Wisconsin-Madison and was held last year in 2022, to continue our partnership," added Campbell.

The SPE Thermoset TopCon 2022 event was a success and enabled the division to award a \$5,000 grant to the University of Wisconsin-Madison Polymer Engineering Center to expand and enhance their thermoset education program. The grant was presented in honor of the late Hugh Karraker, (producer of the movie ALL THINGS BAKELITE, The Age of Plastics) and grandson of Leo Baekeland who is known as the father of the plastics industry with his invention of the first thermoset plastic material in 1907– Bakelite.

The SPE Thermoset TopCon 2023 will feature keynotes, technical presentations and exhibits highlighting advances in materials, processes, and equipment for thermoset technologies in multiple applications. The 2-day conference also includes networking breakfasts, lunches and a cocktail reception. Optional social events, including a tour of the Polymer Engineering Center at UW – Madison, golf outing at University Ridge Golf Course and a cruise of the Madison shoreline via private yacht with deluxe appetizers and beverages are offered on May 8, the day before the conference begins.

Paper abstracts are due January 20, 2023 and final presentations are due March 1, 2023. Limited time slots are available. Send abstracts to teri@intuitgroup.com. A variety of exhibit and non-exhibit sponsorship packages including passes to the event and opportunities for company exposure are available. Companies interested in showcasing their products and/or services, and individuals interested in registering to attend the event should go to https://spethermosets.org/topcon/ for more information or contact Teri Chouinard at teri@intuitgroup.com.

Conference Venue:

Inspired by Wisconsin native Frank Lloyd Wright's design, at the peak of his creative powers in 1938, the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center is one of the country's premier conference and convention facilities. On the shores of Lake Monona, it is an architecturally striking structure that connects the state capital, the cityscape, and the community. The conference exhibits, meals and cocktail reception will be in the Community Terrace with pristine views of Lake Monona offering a relaxing and enjoyable experience. The presentations will be in the Lecture Hall offering comfortable theatre style seating, staging and professional audio-visual support. Special rates are provided for conference attendees at the Hilton Madison Monona Terrace which is connected via skywalk to the conference venue. See https://www.mononaterrace.com and https://www3.hilton.com/ for more info.

Sponsors:

SPE Thermoset TopCon 2022 sponsors included: Mar-Bal, Inc.; Plenco (Plastics Engineering Company); IDI Composites; LyondellBasell; American Colors; AOC; ATF; Axiom Materials; Chromaflo Technologies; Cimbar, Composites One; Glenwood Tool & Mold; Goettfert; Huber Engineered Materials; ICT Molding Solutions; INEOS Composites; Materia; Molding Products; Nabaltec; NETZSCH, OMYA; Penn Compression; P.R. Lewis Consulting; The R.J. Marshall Company; Schmidt & Heinzmann; SP2 Carbon; and Composites World.

The mission of SPE is to promote scientific and engineering knowledge relating to composites worldwide and to educate industry, academia, and the public about the technological advances. SPE's Thermoset Division is active in educating, promoting, recognizing, and communicating technical accomplishments in thermoset technology in multiple industries. Topic areas include applications, materials, processing, equipment, tooling, design, and development.

For more information see https://spethermosets.org/topcon/For more information on the *Society of Plastics Engineers*, see www.4spe.org.

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