



THERMOSET TOPCON

Madison, Wisconsin • May 9-10, 2023

Presented by SPE Thermoset Division

THERMOSETS: INITIATING OPPORTUNITIES

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SPE® THERMOSET DIV. ANNOUNCES FIRST KEYNOTE FOR TOPCON 2023:

“OPPORTUNITY BRINGS NEW CHALLENGES: THE FUTURE OF THERMOSETS” WILL BE PRESENTED BY DALE BROSIUS, CHIEF COMMERCIALIZATION OFFICER FOR THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED COMPOSITES MANUFACTURING INNOVATION (IACMI)

The SPE Thermoset Div. is announcing its first keynote speaker for their annual TopCon event to be held on May 9 – 10, 2023 at the Monona Terrace and Convention Center in Madison, Wisconsin.

“OPPORTUNITY BRINGS NEW CHALLENGES: THE FUTURE OF THERMOSETS,” will be presented by Dale Brosius, Chief Commercialization Officer for the Institute for Advanced Composites Manufacturing Innovation (IACMI). His presentation will focus on the future landscape of the thermoset industry and the challenges it must overcome to remain highly relevant. How IACMI and industry are working together to address clean energy, electric vehicles and infrastructure, urban air mobility, circular economy, life cycle analysis and decarbonization issues will be highlighted. “In the plastics industry, when performance demands are high, thermoset resins and composites come to the forefront,” said Brosius. “Heat, stress, electrical resistance, corrosion prevention, fire retardance, fatigue – whatever the extreme – thermosets deliver,” added Brosius. “Thermosets will continue to have a major role in the forthcoming era if the industry innovates and makes the changes needed to be the materials of choice.”

The SPE Thermoset TopCon 2023 will also feature technical presentations and exhibits highlighting advances in materials, processes, and equipment for thermoset technologies in electrical, automotive, off-highway, appliance, aerospace, building and construction, oil and gas, and other industries. The conference includes two full days of technical sessions with a networking breakfast, lunch and cocktail reception on May 9, and a networking breakfast and lunch on May 10. Optional social events, including a golf outing at University Ridge Golf Course and a tour of the Polymer Engineering Center (PEC) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison are offered on May 8, the day before the conference begins.

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 2023 sponsors to date include: Mar-Bal, Inc.; Plenco (Plastics Engineering Company); IDI Composites International; LyondellBasell Industries; Core Molding Technologies; Glenwood Tool & Mold, Inc.; Vibrantz Technologies; Huber Engineered Materials; ICT Molding Solutions; American Colors; Molding Products; Penn Compression; Schmidt & Heinzmann; Owens Corning, and CompositesWorld.

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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Dale Brosius, Chief Commercialization Officer, IACMI. dbrosius@iacmi.org

Dale Brosius is Chief Commercialization Officer for the Institute for Advanced Composites Manufacturing Innovation (IACMI), focused on composites technologies for more energy efficient vehicles, wind turbines and compressed gas storage. He is also a consultant to the composites industry since 1999, having completed numerous market studies, assisted in strategic planning, and aided companies in merger and acquisition activities across multiple market elements of the composites supply chain.

Brosius has a B.S. in Chemical Engineering and an M.B.A. and over 35 years of industrial experience in the composites industry. As a manufacturing engineer for Dow Chemical, he was responsible for a 400,000mt propylene oxide and 80,000mt propylene glycol plant. This was followed by marketing responsibilities for automotive composites in Detroit, where he led development of low density SMC, carbon fiber drive shafts, pickup truck boxes, leaf springs and infused primary structures made from thermoset resins. Subsequently, at Fiberite and Cytac, he led numerous activities related to high performance carbon fiber prepreg-based components for aerospace and industrial markets, and managed molding compound businesses in the U.S. and France, leading the acquisition of the French subsidiary.

Mr. Brosius has been involved in the production of class A carbon fiber components for a U.S. OEM, and development work with automotive and aerospace OEMs in Europe, Japan and the U.S. Prior to joining IACMI, he spent 10 years with Australia-based Quickstep Technologies, setting up demonstration sites in the U.K., Germany and the U.S. for Quickstep's innovative out-of-autoclave curing technology. He has intimate knowledge of all composite processes, from injection molding to textile preforming to autoclave, as well as glass and carbon fibers and a wide range of thermoset and thermoplastic polymers. He is the former chair of the Thermoset and Composites Divisions of the Society of Plastics Engineers, an SPE Honored Service Member and four years as chair of SPE's Automotive Composites Conference and Exhibition (ACCE). He has authored and presented numerous technical papers for conferences in the U.S., Europe, Japan and Australia, and is the author of over 150 articles and editorials for *High Performance Composites*, *Composites Technology* and *Composites World* magazines.

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