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SPE® AUTOMOTIVE ANNOUNCES “PROMOTION PROGRAM FOR EARLY INNOVATION AWARDS NOMINATIONS”

Nominations In by August 15, 2021 Will be Featured in “Innovation Awards Preview” in “Automotive Plastics News” & Other Event Promotions including Press Releases, E-blasts, Social Media and More!

- **All Most Innovative Use of Plastics Award Nominations are due by September 15, 2021**
- **New Category for 2021: Automotive Plastics Industry Solutions for COVID-19** – will highlight how automotive suppliers adapted their processes, materials, or business to support the international needs for battling COVID-19.

The Automotive Division of the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE®) is announcing a “Promotion Program for Early Innovation Awards Nominations” for its 50th annual **Automotive Innovation Awards Gala**, the oldest and largest recognition event (established in 1970) in the automotive and plastics industries. Nominations in by August 15, 2021 will be featured in a new “Innovation Awards Preview” section in the SPE Automotive Div. Newsletter “Automotive Plastics News” and additional promotions including event press releases, E-blasts, Social Media and more. This year’s Awards Gala will be held **Wednesday, November 10, 2021** at the Burton Manor (www.burtonmanor.net) in Livonia, Mich. Winning part nominations (due by **September 15, 2021**) in 12 different categories, and the teams that developed them, will be honored with a “Most Innovative Use of Plastics” award. A “Grand Award” will be presented to the winning team from all category award winners. This year’s program will include a new category - **“Automotive Plastics Industry Solutions for COVID-19”**- highlighting how automotive OEMs and suppliers adapted their processes, materials, or business to support the international needs for battling COVID-19. Additional categories include: Additive Manufacturing, Aftermarket & Limited Edition/Specialty Vehicles, Body Exterior, Body Interior, Chassis/Hardware, Environmental, Materials, Powertrain, Process/Assembly/Enabling Technologies, Safety and Hall of Fame.

To further commemorate **“50 Years of Plastics Innovation,”** the Innovation Awards Gala planning committee is working on special events to celebrate. One of the events will be a special Hall of Fame (HOF) Award honoring the top 5 most innovative HOF winners since the category was established in 1983. Instead of picking a single Hall of Fame Winner for 2021, the HOF committee will determine the top 10 from the previous 37 winners - from 1983 to 2019. Then, the HOF committee will select the top 5 to be honored with special recognition at the event. The criteria for a HOF award is that the nomination be in use for at least 15 years and be: game changing; very successful worldwide; innovative in materials, process and application; and still being used. The HOF committee consists of engineers, managers, executives, technical experts, SPE Fellows, SPE Honored Service Members and automotive industry technical experts having served at least 30 plus years in the industry. Nominations must be submitted online via:

<https://speautomotive.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/2021-SPE-Innovation-Awards-Program-Part-Nomination-Form-V13.pdf>

For more info on the event and sponsorship opportunities contact teri@intuitgroup.com 248.701.8003 and go to: <https://speautomotive.com/innovation-awards-competition-and-gala/>