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FIRST KEYNOTE ANNOUNCED FOR SPE® ACCE 2024 EVENT: –

"HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPOSITES: TRENDS AND IMPACT ON AUTOMOTIVE LIGHTWEIGHTING"

Andrew N. Hrymak, Co-Director of the Fraunhofer Innovation Platform for Composites Research at Western University and Professor of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering

TROY (DETROIT), MICH. - The executive planning committee for the SPE® Automotive Composites Conference & Expo (ACCE) is announcing the first keynote speaker for their ACCE 2024 event Sept. 4 – 6, 2024 at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, Michigan (Detroit suburb). Andrew N. Hrymak, Co-Director of the Fraunhofer Innovation Platform for Composites Research at Western University and Professor of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, will present "High Performance Composites: Trends and Impact on Automotive Lightweighting." The presentation will showcase some of the significant automotive high performance composite developments of the last decade as well as emerging composite technologies that will have a major impact in future vehicle architectures. "A key enabling solution to the societal need for sustainability and reducing carbon footprint is vehicle lightweighting through composite structures," said Hrymak. "Over the last decade, the composites industry has made major strides in advancing new material systems and processing techniques to produce lightweight vehicle structures at high volume automotive production rates," continued Hrymak. "Emerging composite technologies will continue the advancement of sustainable automotive vehicle design and manufacturing into the future," added Hrymak.

About the SPE ACCE

Held annually in suburban Detroit, the ACCE draws 500 speakers, exhibitors, sponsors and attendees and provides an environment dedicated solely to discussion, education and networking about advances in transportation composites. Its global appeal is evident in the diversity of exhibitors, speakers, and attendees who come to the conference from Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia/Pacific and South America as well as North America. About 20% of attendees work for automotive and light truck, agriculture, truck & bus or aviation OEMs and another 25% represent tier suppliers. Attendees also work for composite materials processing equipment, additives, or reinforcement suppliers; trade associations, consultancies, university and government labs; media; and investment banks. ACCE has been jointly produced by the SPE Automotive and Composites Divisions since 2001. For more info go to: **https://speautomotive.com/acce-conference/.**

The mission of SPE is to promote scientific and engineering knowledge relating to plastics worldwide and to educate industry, academia, and the public about these advances. SPE's Automotive Division is active in educating, promoting, recognizing, and communicating technical accomplishments in all phases of plastics and plastic-based composite developments in the global transportation industry. SPE's Composites Division does the same with a focus on plastic-based composites in multiple industries. Topic areas include applications, materials, processing, equipment, tooling, design, and development. For more info go to: **https://speautomotive.com/** and **https://composites.4spe.org/**. For more information on the *Society of Plastics Engineers*, see **www.4spe.org**.

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Andrew N. Hrymak, Co-Director of the Fraunhofer Innovation Platform for Composites Research at Western University and Professor of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, will present "High Performance Composites: Trends and Impact on Automotive Lightweighting" at the SPE® ACCE 2024 Event, Sept. 4-6, 2024

Andrew N. Hrymak is Co-Director of the Fraunhofer Innovation Platform for Composites Research at Western University and Professor of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering. His research interests include modeling, design, and optimization of materials processing systems and polymer composites. He previously served as Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Associate Editor of Computers and Chemical Engineering, and Editor-in-Chief of International Polymer Processing. He has published more than 140 peer reviewed articles and 50 peer reviewed conference papers and book chapters.

Photo attached.

For more information and the SPE ACCE see https://speautomotive.com/acce-conference/.

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