



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 19 APRIL 2024

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**SPE® ACCE 2024 – AUTOMOTIVE COMPOSITES CONFERENCE & EXPO ANNOUNCES
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS FOR SPE® ACCE STUDENT POSTER COMPETITION**

Sponsored by Dassault Systèmes - ABSTRACTS DUE JULY 1, 2024

TROY (DETROIT), MICH. - The organizing committee for the SPE® Automotive Composites Conference & Expo (ACCE) invites graduate, undergraduate, community college, and high school students to submit abstracts on innovative composites technologies, for automotive and ground transportation, for its annual student poster competition. The competition will be held during the ACCE at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, Michigan (Detroit suburb) Sept. 4 - 6, 2024. Judges who are industry experts, SPE board members, and members of the media will review all posters with student authors during the conference. Students entering the poster competition will also give a 5-minute mini-talk podium presentation on their poster topic in a special technical session. First-, second-, and third-place awards will be presented to winners in graduate, undergraduate and high school categories during a special ceremony during the ACCE.

Poster Titles and Abstracts are due by July 1, 2024. Digital copies of posters are due by August 20, 2024 for pre-review by judges. Abstracts and Digital Copies of the posters need to be submitted online via the **SUBMIT 2024 PAPERS, PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS HERE** button on <https://speautomotive.com/acce-conference/>. Questions should be sent to

[Douglas E Smith@baylor.edu](mailto:Douglas_E_Smith@baylor.edu).

Students will need to bring 24” x 36” printed copies of their posters to the conference. Large multi-poster panels and push pins for displaying the posters in the Student Poster Display area will be provided. All students presenting a poster in the competition will receive free registration to the conference, and a shared hotel room provided by SPE ACCE. Students who submit abstracts and posters early, will be provided with accommodations at the Hyatt Place hotel onsite at ACCE. The ACCE provides students with excellent networking opportunities especially ideal for those close to graduating who are starting to look for a job. The poster template is on the SPE ACCE website “2024 ACCE POSTER COMPETITION TEMPLATE” <https://speautomotive.com/acce-conference/>.

Poster topics may include, but are not limited to, subjects such as:

- Automotive Composites
- Composites and lightweight materials for trucks
- Bio-composites
- Nanocomposites
- Glass, carbon, and hybrid fibers
- Thermoset and thermoplastic technologies
- Recycling and green technologies
- Multi-materials
- Joining technologies
- Applications of Composites in Electric Vehicles
- Modeling and analysis of lightweight materials
- CAFE standards and mandates
- Cost-effective manufacturing
- Use of advanced materials in innovative applications
- Virtual prototyping and design
- Microstructure, failure and fracture
- Failure envelopes and theories
- Additive manufacturing of composites
- Air Mobility

Students and their posters are ranked using the following criteria:

- Content (student and poster demonstrate clarity of topic, objectives, and background);
- Motivation for research and technical relevance to conference theme;
- Methodology and approach to problem;
- Quality of proposed research results/findings;
- Conclusions are supported by information presented;
- Presentation (display aesthetics are pleasing and there is a logical flow between sections);
- Knowledgeable (presenter has a good grasp of the subject);
- Understandability (poster is effective even without student being present to explain it); and
- Overall rank vs. other posters and presenters.

The 2023 ACCE Student Poster Competition first place winners included Amit M. Deshpande, University of Delaware, for his poster “Manufacturing and Validation of a Carbon Fiber Reinforced Thermoplastic Composite Door” in the Graduate Category; and Johnathan Behr, Clemson University for his poster “Ultra-lightweight Carbon Foams from a Lignin for High-temperature Thermal Insulation Applications” in the Undergraduate Category.

Held annually in suburban Detroit, the ACCE currently 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. The show has been jointly produced by the SPE Automotive and Composites Divisions since 2001. <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 see <https://speautomotive.com/>, <https://composites.4spe.org/> and <https://4spe.org/>.

For more information on the ACCE Student Poster Competition, contact:

- Dr. Douglas E. Smith, Baylor University, 254.710.6830, Douglass_E_Smith@baylor.edu



2023 ACCE Student Poster Competition first place winner in the Graduate Category – Amit M. Deshpande, University of Delaware, for his poster “Manufacturing and Validation of a Carbon Fiber Reinforced Thermoplastic Composite Door” receiving his award from Keith Nagara, Dassault Systèmes, ACCE Student Poster Competition Sponsor



Keith Nagara, Dassault Systèmes (Student Poster Competition Sponsor) Presenting Award to Johnathan Behr, Clemson University, First Place Winner In the Undergraduate Category

High Resolution Photos from the ACCE are available via:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/speautomotive/albums/with/72157673717033072>