



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 29 AUGUST 2025 - Contact: Teri Chouinard, 248.701.8003, [intuitgroup@gmail.com](mailto:intuitgroup@gmail.com)

PANEL DISCUSSION ANNOUNCED FOR SPE® ACCE 2025 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENT:

**“THE EVOLUTION OF THE INDUSTRY AND COMPOSITES OVER THE PAST 25 YEARS OF ACCE”**

**MODERATOR: Dale Brosius, President of Brosius Management Consulting & Commercialization Manager at IACMI**

**PANELISTS:**

- **Prof. Frank Henning, Fraunhofer ICT**
- **Michael Connolly, MC Material Design**
- **Alper Kiziltas, Amazon**
- **Mike Siwajek, CSP**
- **Prof. David Jack, Baylor University**

**TROY (DETROIT), MICH.** - The executive planning committee for the [SPE® Automotive Composites](#)

[Conference & Expo](#) (ACCE) is announcing a special panel discussion **“THE EVOLUTION OF THE INDUSTRY AND COMPOSITES OVER THE PAST 25 YEARS OF ACCE”** for their ACCE 2025 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event Sept. 3 – 5, 2025 in Novi, Michigan (Detroit suburb). Over the past 25 years, the automotive industry has evolved considerably, and the composites industry has as well. Various trends like CAFE standards, the carbon fiber craze of the early 2000’s, hybrid powertrains, composites in truck boxes, impact of Covid, rise of electrification, hydrogen fuel cell vehicles, value of weight savings versus part/function integration, rise of structural thermoplastics, recycling/sustainability and other thrusts have occurred. Coincidentally, the SPE ACCE has responded to “meet the moment” to all these changes. This panel session, consisting of ACCE program chairs from the start until today, will discuss these topics and how ACCE continues to advance technology, bring real solutions to OEMs, and help prepare the next generation workforce in a rapidly changing global environment.

**Dale Brosius, Brosius Management Consulting and IACMI – Moderator** with key expertise on ACCE history as a past ACCE chair, paper reviewer, moderator, sponsor and more over the years, and as an industry expert on carbon fiber, SMC, IACMI evolution, and more will bring a global perspective to the discussion.

**Prof. Frank Henning, Fraunhofer ICT – Panelist** with key expertise on ACCE formation, and as past ACCE co-chair, technical program chair, exhibitor, and an industry expert in thermoplastics processing, carbon fiber and more will also bring a global perspective to the discussion. His experience as an academic leader and at Fraunhofer brings additional value.

**Michael Connolly, MC Material Design – Panelist** with key expertise on ACCE formation, and as past ACCE chair, technical program chair, paper reviewer, moderator, exhibitor and an industry expert on thermosets will enhance the panel with experience at Huntsman for many years and as a founder of his current business serving the industry.

**Alper Kiziltas, Amazon – Panelist** will bring a unique perspective to the discussion as an ACCE scholarship winner including his path from being an ACCE student poster presenter to ACCE conference chair, and as chair during COVID-19. His expertise in recycling/sustainability will enhance the discussion regarding the importance of “green” technologies. His experience with Ford Motor Co. will bring an OEM perspective to the panel.

**Mike Siwajek, CSP – Panelist** with key expertise as an ACCE presenter, conference chair, attendee since ACCE started in 2001, as an exhibitor/sponsor, and industry expert on SMC, the transition to electric vehicles, and more will provide great insight from a Tier 1 perspective.

**Prof. David Jack, Baylor University – Panelist** with key expertise as an ACCE student poster committee member, scholarship committee member, technical program chair, conference chair, sponsor, and leader initiating the Whova platform for ACCE for improved digital efficiencies and more brings value to the panel. His industry expertise in modeling & simulation, additive manufacturing and more brings additional value from an industrial and academic perspective.

## **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](http://www.4spe.org).

#####

*SPE® is a registered trademark of the Society of Plastics Engineers. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.*