



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 15 MAY 2026 - Contact: Teri Chouinard, 248.701.8003, intuitgroup@gmail.com

SECOND KEYNOTE ANNOUNCED FOR SPE® ACCE 2026: –

“AUTOMOTIVE MATERIALS CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES”

**Dr. Paul E. Krajewski, Director of Materials and Manufacturing Systems Research, General Motors
Global Research and Development Center**

TROY (DETROIT), MICH. - The executive planning committee for the [SPE® Automotive Composites Conference & Expo](#) (ACCE) is announcing the second keynote speaker for their ACCE 2026 event Sept. 9 – 10, 2026 in Novi, Michigan (Detroit suburb). Dr. Paul E. Krajewski, Director of Materials and Manufacturing Systems Research, General Motors Global Research and Development Center, will present **"AUTOMOTIVE MATERIALS CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES"**.

The automotive industry is undergoing unprecedented change with electrification, autonomous driving, and smart manufacturing, all happening under the challenges of sustainability, increased global competition and changing market dynamics. One constant throughout these challenges is the role of materials to both enable technological innovation and ensure stable production. This talk will address the many ways the automotive industry will leverage materials and their supply chain for a sustainable automotive future. In addition, key opportunities for exploration and partnership will be described to help motivate future research agendas.

“Advancing automotive materials requires not only innovation, but a clear vision for future research and collaboration. I look forward to sharing insights on where the greatest opportunities lie and how we can collectively drive progress across the industry,” said Krajewski.

About the SPE ACCE

Held annually in suburban Detroit, the ACCE draws 450 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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Dr. Paul E. Krajewski, Director of Materials and Manufacturing Systems Research at General Motors Global Research and Development Center, will present: “AUTOMOTIVE MATERIALS CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**” At SPE® ACCE 2026 Event, Sept. 9-10, 2026**

Dr. Paul E. Krajewski is the Director of Materials and Manufacturing Systems Research at the General Motors Global Research and Development Center. Paul also represents GM as the USCAR Leadership Group Director, as a JOG member for USDRIVE, and as the Technical Director for HRL. Dr. Krajewski is a global expert in vehicle lightweighting and lightweight materials. He received his Bachelor’s Degree and Doctorate in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of Michigan. He has led production implementations with aluminum, magnesium, and carbon fiber composites. Dr. Krajewski has over 75 publications and has been awarded 89 US Patents. He has been recognized by Fortune Magazine (40 under 40) and MIT’s Technology Review (TR100) as a leading innovator, and is a Fellow of ASM International. He was inducted into the National Academy of Engineering in 2020. Paul has also published four children’s STEM / STEAM books.

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/>