



News Release

For Immediate Release

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Automobile Market a Major Focus of 2015 Polyurethanes Technical Conference *Three Industry-specific Sessions to Highlight Automotive Innovations as well as Industry Regulatory Issues*

WASHINGTON (August 20, 2015) – The [2015 Polyurethanes Technical Conference](#) will highlight issues and topics specific to the automotive market at the three-day event this October. Hosted by the [Center for the Polyurethanes Industry](#) (CPI), the conference is set to take place Oct. 5-7 at the [Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center](#) in Orlando, Fla. Three separate sessions focused on the automotive industry will be offered as part of the conference program, concentrated specifically on the complexity of global volatile organic compound (VOC) specifications.

“The automotive sector is a growing, vibrant area for the polyurethanes industry - one where there is great opportunity for innovation,” said Lee Salamone, senior director of CPI. “There are also some important technical and regulatory topics central to the continued development of this sector, and the Polyurethanes Technical Conference is the perfect place to highlight the innovations and explore issues like VOCs.”

Polyurethanes have a wide range of uses in the automotive industry. In addition to the foam that makes car seats comfortable, many automobile bodies, bumpers, interior ceiling sections, spoilers, and doors use polyurethanes. Polyurethanes can also help manufacturers reduce weight and increase fuel economy, comfort, corrosion resistance, insulation and sound absorption.

Sessions in the conference’s automotive track include:

- **Part 1 of “Global Automotive VOC Specifications,” Tuesday, Oct. 6:** The session will feature presentations by Dr. Mark Polster of the Ford Motor Company, Mr. Mark Weierstall of Woodbridge Foam Corporation, and Dr. Brian Neil of Bayer Material Science. They will cover a history of VOC standards, where regulations stand today, and their views on potential areas for improvement.
- **Automotive Technical Session, Tuesday, Oct. 6:** This session will showcase technical presentations on topics such as new ISO methods, improvements in foam aging, innovative stabilizer systems, enhanced low glass transition temperature viscoelastic foam systems, and novel self-healing coatings to improve scratch resistance. Industry experts from Markes International, TOSOH Corporation, Huntsman International LLC, BASF Schweiz AG and BASF France S.A.S. will participate.

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- **Part 2 of “Global Automotive VOC Specifications,” Wednesday, Oct. 7:** This roundtable discussion focuses on innovative approaches to address the challenge surrounding VOCs in automobiles. Participating companies include Air Products, TOSOH Corporation, Huntsman, Dow Chemical, Milliken, Evonik and Momentive.

CPI will also host a [Regulatory Roundtable](#) on Wednesday, Oct. 6, from 8-11 am. This session will highlight some of the authorities, programs and regulatory pressures facing the industry. Invited speakers will provide updates on federal and state activities important to the polyurethane industry. Speakers include representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and European Diisocyanate & Polyurethane (ISOPA). The session will highlight some of the regulatory pressures facing the polyurethanes industry, including updates on federal and state activities such as the EPA’s Significant New Alternative Policy (SNAP) on blowing agents, the Toxic Substances Control Act, OSHA’s National Emphasis Program on Isocyanates, and the European Regulation for Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) program.

Don’t miss the latest information and current trend discussions! [View the full conference agenda](#) and [register](#) through [the conference website](#). [Reduced registration rates](#) are available through Sept. 4, 2015. Attendees who register early will save \$200 on standard registration fees.

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