News Release

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POLYURETHANES CONFERENCE TO HIGHLIGHT AUTOMOTIVE INNOVATIONS
Discussion Focuses on Polyurethane Advancements Benefiting the Automotive Industry

WASHINGTON, D.C. (June 29, 2011) – Automotive manufacturers are constantly improving vehicle performance, fuel economy and comfort to meet consumer demand. Speakers at the Polyurethanes 2011 Technical Conference will discuss the latest polyurethane developments that help the automotive industry meet these demands and continue moving into the future. Hosted by the Center for the Polyurethanes Industry (CPI) of the American Chemistry Council, this year’s conference will take place September 26-28 at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tenn.

“Polyurethane use in transportation has been increasing for more than a decade. Our industry is constantly innovating to help improve the many automotive applications of polyurethane, including lightweight parts that decrease auto weight and help increase fuel economy for cars and vehicles,” said Lee Salamone, senior director of CPI. “During the conference, attendees will learn more about how new polyurethane developments are allowing the automotive industry to continually improve cars and meet consumers’ demands.”

Featuring more than 60 technical presentations, the Polyurethanes 2011 Technical Conference will provide both automotive and polyurethane industry leaders and professionals with an opportunity to hear about the latest technical innovations and issues affecting the global polyurethanes industry. This year’s conference agenda features a technical session with four papers on automotive-related topics, ranging from advancements in flexible molded foams to improvements in paint protection films. The session also includes updates from members of the Molded Foam Industry Panel, a group of industry experts working to evolve automotive seating specifications.

- Researchers from BASF Corporation will begin the session with a discussion of new antioxidant systems that offer lower volatile organic compounds (VOCs) for flexible molded foam.
- Scientists from Huntsman International will examine crosslinked thermoplastic polyurethane as automotive paint protection film.
Researchers from BASF Corporation, Dow, Huntsman International and The Woodbridge Group, who are members of the Molded Foam Industry Panel, will present an investigation of odor test methods for molded foam.

Another Molded Foam Industry Panel member will conclude the session with a discussion on the validity of polyurethane hysteresis loss as a viable prediction of long-term performance of automotive seating.

CPI will also offer its popular Polyurethane Professional Development Program at the conference, with course topics ranging from introductory polyurethane chemistry and technology to physical testing and raw materials. In addition, CPI will present its annual Innovation Award and host tabletop exhibitions where companies can showcase their products.

Registration for the Polyurethanes 2011 Technical Conference is now open. For more information on the conference, including the conference program and sponsorship opportunities, or to register, visit www.americanchemistry.com/polyurethane. Get the latest updates and conference news on LinkedIn and Twitter. Follow @AmChemEvents and use the hashtag #PUtech to join the conversation.

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The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products and services that make people's lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health and safety performance through Responsible Care®, common sense advocacy designed to address major public policy issues, and health and environmental research and product testing. The business of chemistry is a $720 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is one of the nation’s largest exporters, accounting for ten cents out of every dollar in U.S. exports. Chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development. Safety and security have always been primary concerns of ACC members, and they have intensified their efforts, working closely with government agencies to improve security and to defend against any threat to the nation’s critical infrastructure.

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The Center for the Polyurethanes Industry of the ACC promotes the sustainable growth of the polyurethanes industry. Our members are U.S. producers or distributors of chemicals and equipment used to make polyurethane or manufacturers of polyurethane products.