

2026 AGENDA TUESDAY 9 | 29

All Times Shown in EDT USA (UTC - 04:00)

AM 7:00 REGISTRATION / EXPO / NETWORKING / BREAKFAST
8:15 WELCOME REMARKS Conference Committee, led by Neil Fuenmayor, Rob Philp, and Michael Balow

8:30 KEYNOTE

9:15 NETWORKING BREAK

	HALL I	HALL II	HALL III
	MATERIALS & PERFORMANCE INNOVATION <i>Moderators:</i> Dr. Birat KC, Magna International Austin Wagenhals, Ford Motor Co.	SUSTAINABILITY, CIRCULARITY & REGULATORY READINESS <i>Moderators:</i> Dr. Murali Reddy, CpK Dr. Raziye Mohammedi, Ford Motor Co.	NEW APPLICATION, DESIGN & PROCESS DEVELOPMENTS <i>Moderators:</i> Kevin DeGrood, Borealis (Borouge) Paul Sieradzki, TORAY Plastics
10:00	Propylene-Rich Copolymer for Mitigation of Tiger Stripes in Auto Thermoplastic Polyolefin (TPO) Brian Satterley, ExxonMobil	Upcycling Polypropylene through Functional Masterbatch for Automotive Interior Applications Dr. Raziye Mohammedi, Xiaojiang Wang & Ellen Lee, Ford Motor Co.	Characterization of Strain Rate Dependency Dr. Charlie Yang, LyondellBasell
10:30	Advancing TPO in Exterior Body Panels Mark Jablanka, Dow	Manufacturing and Recycling Mono-Material Door Assemblies Dr. Aristotle J. Zervoudakis, Inteva Products LLC	Establishment of a Film Decoration Technique Applicable to Large PP Parts Yutaro Kawasaki / Joel Cambell, Nippon Paint Automotive Americas/Taikisha USA
11:00	Next Generation TPO Artificial Leather: Advancing Surface Durability Beyond Conventional Performance Limits Josh Cram, Continental	Incorporating Fiber to Create Unique Aesthetics, Reduce Costs, and Promote Sustainability with Molded in Color TPO's Perry Banta / Kristina Sova, LyondellBasell	Ditch the Paint Shop: Class A Polyurethane Overmolded TPO Parts for Interior and Exterior Applications Dan Rozelman, KraussMaffei
11:30	TPO Translucent Composite Development Louis Martin, BYK USA	Automotive Seating Reimagined: Polyolefin Innovations Dr. Shankar Ram, Dow	Enabling Paint Elimination Through Engineered Molded-in-Color Systems Robert Louis Krieger & Will Taber, Americhem

PM 12:00 NETWORKING LUNCH

1:15 PANEL DISCUSSION - SUSTAINABILITY

2:15 NETWORKING BREAK SPONSORED BY **SIRMAX**

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2:30	Advanced Short Glass Fibre Reinforced Polypropylene Solutions for Structural Door Applications Nicolas Schlutig, Sumika Polymers	Bridging Performance and Circularity in Automotive Interior Materials Luca Gazzola, Sirmax	Turning Down the Heat: Smarter Shear Control in Twin Screw Compounding Cameron Kheradi, Coperion Corporation
3:00	Compression Set Improvement at High Temperatures Using a Novel HSBC Ryohei Akatsuka, Asahi Kasei	Blue Value for Automotive Interiors Noah Dunlap, Advanced Composites	Atypical Twin Screw Extrusion System Configurations Used for TPO Processes Charlie Martin, Leistritz
3:30	A New Talc Portfolio for Automotive TPO Modification: Enabling Mechanical Properties Trade-Offs Across Particle-Size Classes Piero Ercoli, IMI Fabi	Recycled HDPE and PP for Automotive Applications Andy Johnson, KW Plastics	Beyond Twin-Screw Compounding: CPM's Ring Extruder in Modern TPO Compounding Daron Fraim, CPM

4:00 NETWORKING BREAK

	MATERIALS & PERFORMANCE INNOVATION <i>Moderators:</i> Dr. John Mara, Amfine Dr. Dave Patel, GuruTech Systems, Inc	SUSTAINABILITY, CIRCULARITY & REGULATORY READINESS <i>Moderators:</i> Joshua Cram, Continental John D. Walling, LyondellBasell Dhruv Gambhir, Tesla	NEW APPLICATION, DESIGN & PROCESS DEVELOPMENTS <i>Moderators:</i> Kevin O'Malley, Hyundai America Technical Center, Inc. Charlie Yang, LyondellBasell
4:15	Research and Application of Self-Healing Polypropylene Materials Dr. Kenny Lei, Kingfa USA	Core-Shell Lignin Additives for Tough, Flame-Resistant, and Recyclable Polypropylene Reza Bhahrami, Texas A&M	Emerging DBDPE Alternatives for Automotive Applications & the Formulation Impacts Kimberly Kern & Jakub Lison, ICL Group
4:45	Advanced Styrenic TPE Solutions for Static and Dynamic Automotive Sealing Stephanie O'Kon, Kraiburg TPE	Recent Development Progress in Sustainable/ Low CLTE/Translucent Materials Mr. Nobutaka Oba / Mr. Andrew Meyer / Mr. Ted Kalbfleish, Mytex	A Reactive Hot Melt that Bonds to Primed TPO, Withstands High Temperature Bonding Processes, and Builds Green Strength Quickly James Hammond, HB Fuller
5:15	Highly Efficient Isotactic Polypropylene Degradation Induced via Rapid Non-Thermal Plasma Hydrogenolysis Over Y-Zeolite Marziyeh Shabani, University of Akron	Supporting More Sustainable Automotive Materials: Recycled PP Production and Data Renee Haney, LyondellBasell	Hot Melt Adhesive for Multi-Substrate Bonding for Interior Automotive Applications Dr. Nayera Abdelaziz, Henkel

5:45 EXECUTIVE MARKETING SESSIONS

6:00 NETWORKING RECEPTION

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KEYNOTE

NETWORKING BREAK

HALL I

MATERIALS & PERFORMANCE INNOVATION

Moderators:
 Dr. John Mara, *Amfine*
 Dr. Dave Patel, *GuruTech Systems, Inc.*

9:45 **Non-Halogenated Flame Retardant Compounds for High Performance Applications**
 Ritch Koeth, *LyondellBasell*

10:15 **Santoprene Halogen Free Flame Retardant TPV Grades**
 Dr. Hongyu (Henry) Chen, *Celanese Corp.*

10:45 **Advances in HFFR Technology: FR GFPP vs. FR GFPA**
 Dr. Gary Rex, *JLS*

11:15 **Advanced TPE Materials for Airbag Cover Applications**
 Hitoshi Kageyama, *Sumitomo Chemical*

HALL II

SUSTAINABILITY, CIRCULARITY & REGULATORY READINESS

Moderators: Joshua Cram, *Continental*
 John D. Walling, *LyondellBasell*
 Dhruv Gambhir, *Tesla*

A New Practical Approach for Measuring Inclusion Count in Recycled Polymers for Class A Parts
 Dr. Birat KC, *Magna Exteriors*

Innovations in Sustainable TPE and TPO Compounds with ELV Content
 Anthony Marozsan, *PRISM Worldwide*

Next Generation Low Density TPO for Bumper/Fascia
 Dr. Jane Lu, *LyondellBasell*

PCR/PIR Usage for Painted Bumper Applications
 Kevin DeGrood, *Borouge (Borealis)*

HALL III

NEW APPLICATION, DESIGN & PROCESS DEVELOPMENTS

Moderators: Kevin O'Malley, *Hyundai America Technical Center, Inc.*
 Charlie Yang, *LyondellBasell*

Advanced Short Glass Fibre Reinforced Polypropylene Solutions with Reduced Cycle Time for Cost Saving
 Nicolas Schlutig, *Sumika Polymers*

Effect of Ethylene-based Elastomer Compositions on Mold Shrinkage of TPO Compounds
 Giri Gururajan, *ExxonMobil*

Advanced Design of Transparent/Translucent Automotive TPO Materials Using Polymer Additives
 Akitomo Sato, *Amfine Chemical*

Using Hot Runners for Injection Molding with Abrasive, Corrosive, and High-Temperature Plastics
 Derrick Hennebicque, *Husky*

NETWORKING LUNCH

PANEL DISCUSSION - MEGA TRENDS

NETWORKING BREAK

MATERIALS & PERFORMANCE INNOVATION

Moderators:
 Heejung Kwon, *SONGWON*
 Dr. Christian Aho, *Americhem*

2:15 **POE Evolution Helping Enable Soft TPO Automotive Interiors**
 Mark Allen, *Dow*

2:45 **Engineered TPV and SEBS Compounds for High-Performance Dynamic Seals**
 Serif Erdogan, *Elastron*

3:15 **Enhancing the Long-Term Thermal Stability of PP/TPO in Interior & Under-the-Hood Automotive Applications**
 Heejung Kwon, *SONGWON*

SUSTAINABILITY, CIRCULARITY & REGULATORY READINESS

Moderators:
 Sharad Thakkar, *Niche Polymer (Retired)*
 Dr. Bhavesh Shah, *Lion Elastomers*

Enabling Automotive Circularity: Production Approval of 100% ELV-Derived PCR PP Copolymer
 Scott J. Oppliger / Mario Maselli, *Toyota Motor North America R&D / Tandem Recycling*

UV-Stabilization of Automotive TPO Compounds Impact of Sustainability, Recycling & E-Mobility
 Dr. Noah Liu, *Rianlon*

Designing for Circularity: Closing the Loop Between Material Science and End-of-Life Reality
 Kari Bliss, *Padnos*

NEW APPLICATION, DESIGN & PROCESS DEVELOPMENTS

Moderators:
 Mark Pilette, *Magna Exteriors (Retired)*
 Stu Kapp, *Leistritz*

LFAM of Automotive Structures: Bridging the Gap Between Prototyping and Production
 Juergen Huemer, *KraussMaffei*

Maximize Resin Quality and Yield with In-Line, Off-Line, and Lab Pellet Inspection and Sorting
 David Citron, *Inspec.Tech*

Technical, Logistical, and Commercial Challenges of Scaling ELV Recycling
 Kevin Potrias, *Tandem Recycling/Post Plastics*

NETWORKING BREAK

MATERIALS & PERFORMANCE INNOVATION

Moderators:
 Heejung Kwon, *SONGWON*
 Dr. Christian Aho, *Americhem*

4:00 **Ablation Resistant Long Glass Fiber Thermoplastics Enabling Next Generation Lightweight and Fire-Resistant EV Structures**
 Yongtai Zhao, *Kingfa*

4:30 **Balancing Light Stability and Interior Compliance in PP/TPO Using Low-MW HALS**
 Dr. Tad Finnegan, Dr. Lily Liu, *BASF Corp.*

SUSTAINABILITY, CIRCULARITY & REGULATORY READINESS

Moderators:
 Sharad Thakkar, *Niche Polymer (Retired)*
 Dr. Bhavesh Shah, *Lion Elastomers*

A Success Story: TPO Made of rPP
 Rabeh Elleithy, Ph.D., *PureCycle*

Sustainable Fibers for Enhancing the Functionality of Thermoplastics
 TBD, *JRS Fibers*

NEW APPLICATION, DESIGN & PROCESS DEVELOPMENTS

Moderators:
 Mark Pilette, *Magna Exteriors (Retired)*
 Stu Kapp, *Leistritz*

Upcycling of Polyolefin Feedstock into Usable Filter Media using Plant-Based Solvents
 Moni Ghosh, *University of Akron*

Simulation-Driven Sustainability: Enabling Recycled Materials, Lightweighting, and Process Optimization
 Anand Bora, *Moldex3D*

CONFERENCE ENDS