

ATTACHMENT: SPE Thermoforming Division logo

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For Immediate Release

SPE THERMOFORMING DIVISION ANNOUNCES CALL FOR ENTRIES IN ANNUAL PARTS COMPETITION

Carol Stream, IL, U.S.A., June 12, 2017: The Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) Thermoforming Division has announced a call for entries in its annual Parts Competition, showcasing the latest advances in thermoforming design and application. The submission deadline is *August 25, 2017*.

The parts entered in the Competition will be on display during the 26th SPE Thermoforming Conference®, which will be held September 11-13 at the Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld, in Orlando, Florida. Awards for winning parts will be presented at the Thermoforming Awards Dinner on Tuesday, September 12, at the hotel.

Competition entrants may submit parts in several categories, depending on the type of thermoforming operation:

- ***Roll-fed*** categories are Industrial, Medical, or Food.
- ***Heavy-gauge*** categories are Vacuum Form, Pressure Form, and two new categories: Twin Sheet and TPO.
- ***Combined***. Entrants may submit parts comprised of recycled material (minimum 40% recycled content), which include Value Added Assembly and represent Innovation.

“Innovation is a key driver in the planning of this conference, starting with our new location in Orlando,” said Steve Clark, 2017 SPE Thermoforming Parts Competition Chair. “We are soliciting parts that will drive innovation and even inspire the next generation of thermoformers. The Division has relaunched the student parts competition this year: our inaugural RC Car Race encourages students to design and thermoform a model car that they’ll race on our custom-built track in Orlando. We hope to replicate this type of innovation with the parts competition.”

Guidelines for Competition entrants and the required product entry form are posted online at <http://thermoformingdivision.com/parts-competition/guidelinesentry-form/>. All product images and descriptions must be emailed to Steve Clark at sclark@monark-equip.com by the August 25 deadline.

Full information on the Parts Competition and the Thermoforming Conference is available at <http://thermoformingdivision.com> or by contacting Lesley Kyle at 1-914-671-9524 or lesley@openmindworks.com.

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THE SPE THERMOFORMING DIVISION is a technical division of the Society of Plastics Engineers, based in Bethel, CT. The Thermoforming Division's mission is to facilitate the advancement of thermoforming technologies through education, application, promotion and research. The Division hosts an annual educational conference and publishes an award-winning technical journal, *SPE Thermoforming Quarterly*®. The Division has also funded over \$275K in equipment grants and tens of thousands of dollars in undergraduate scholarships since it was first formed. For more information, please visit <http://thermoformingdivision.com>.