

SPE Thermoforming Division
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PHOTOS ATTACHED: 01. Winners of Radio-Controlled Car Racing Competition; 02. Group Participants, Faculty Advisors and Sponsor; 03. SPE Thermoforming Division Logo [captions below]. *Photo and Video credit: Dallager Photography*

SPE THERMOFORMING DIVISION ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF STUDENT RADIO CONTROLLED CAR DESIGN AND RACING COMPETITION

CAROL STREAM, IL., U.S.A., Dec 1, 2023 . . . The Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) Thermoforming Division has announced the winners of its fourth student radio-controlled car design and racing competition.

Nine students from five schools across the U.S. were charged with designing, manufacturing and decorating the bodies of radio-controlled cars whose chassis were furnished by the Division, with support from corporate sponsors, including, LyondellBasell, McConnell Company, Monark Equipment, MSA Components and Primex Plastics. The car body had to be formed using thermoformable plastic, and produced using the vacuum/thermoforming process.

Students also participated in a race conducted on a built-to-specification indoor racetrack located on the exhibit hall floor during the Thermoforming Division's biennial conference, held October 23 through the 26th in Cleveland, Ohio ([click here](#) to watch video of the race).

Cash prizes were awarded in different categories: People's Choice, Best Design (Split 3 ways) and the race itself. This year's winners are:

- ***First Place in the Race: Fast Qualifier, and Split in Best Design Andre Roumer & Julian Tarloski-Parady, Team Name: (Blue Devil Shorty) Central CT State University***
- ***Second Place in the Race: Gabriel Meyer & Sam Wren, Team Name:(Escape Velocity) Purdue Polytechnic Institute***

- **Best Design and People's Choice: Jazmine Echevarra, Georgia Institute of Technology, Team Name: (GravGrinder BuzzBlitz Edition)**
- Second Fast Qualifier: Roberto T. Ponte, **Georgia Institute of Technology, Team Name:(Duna Uno)**
- Best Design /Split: Kevin Rheame & Ridwane OuroBody, Team Name: (The Hot Ridders) **Central CT State University**
- Tanisha Francis Kettering University Team Name: (KaSPeR)

“Each year, the RC Car Race becomes more exciting, and more competitive,” said Dan Sproles, SPE Thermoforming Division Education Chair / RC Car Race Chair. “The enthusiasm demonstrated by the faculty advisors and the students made this a particularly fun competition. The designs were also really impressive, and we hope that even more schools will participate in the 2025 event.”

Photo Captions:

Spe23RCwinners: (left to right): Julian Tarlowski Parady, Roberto Ponte, Andre Roumer, Jazmine Echevarra, Ned Moore, Ridwane OuroBody, Kevin Rheame

SpeRCTrophy: Winner's trophy

Spe23RCCompetition: Race Car competition

Photo and Video Credit: Dallager Photography

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THE SPE THERMOFORMING DIVISION is a technical division of the Society of Plastics Engineers, based in Danbury, 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 <https://thermoformingdivision.com>.