ATTACHMENT: SPE Thermoforming Division Logo

<u>Contact for SPE:</u> Lesley Kyle, +1 914-671-9524, <u>lesley@openmindworks.com</u> <u>Press contact:</u> Bob Martino, +1 203-321-0787, <u>bob@martinocommunications.com</u>

For Immediate Release SEP

<u>SPE THERMOFORMING DIVISION CONFERENCE WILL NOW BE BIENNIAL,</u> WITH THE NEXT EVENT SCHEDULED FOR 2021

CAROL STREAM, IL., U.S.A., November 4, 2019: The Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) Thermoforming Division has changed the frequency of its SPE Thermoforming Conference from annual to biennial.

The Division is cancelling plans for the 2020 SPE Thermoforming Conference and will hold the next Conference in 2021. The event will take place on September 20-22, 2021 in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

"For the past several years, the Division's Board of Directors has received feedback from attendees, sponsors and exhibitors that an annual conference is no longer what the industry needs," said Eric Short, SPE Thermoforming Division Chair. "The Board felt that it was time to act by moving the conference to every other year. It wasn't an easy decision, but we are convinced that it was the right one."

Mr. Short added that the Division plans to further enrich the content delivered during the Conference, minimize conflicts with other events, and ultimately deliver greater value to all stakeholders.

"Our challenge as a board is to develop creative strategies to continue to fulfill our mission during the non-conference years," said Short.

More information is available 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 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.