SPE Thermoforming Conference**®**  
Parts Competition Guidelines and Entry Form  
**September 20-22, 2021  
Grand Rapids, Michigan**

**Submission Deadline: August 20, 2021**

**Shipments May Arrive Beginning: August 20, 2021  
Shipment Deadline: September 10, 2021**



We are excited to welcome all thermoforming businesses to participate in our prestigious global competition. Tool makers and sheet suppliers are also encouraged to participate! The SPE Thermoforming Division is proud to showcase the latest advances and innovations in thermoforming design and applications.

1. All submissions must be final thermoformed components produced from production tooling. **Advertising in any form on part submissions is strictly prohibited.**
2. Multiple submissions from one company are accepted; please use one entry form for each submission.
3. All images and descriptions must be emailed to the Parts Competition Chair two (2) weeks prior to the Conference. Images must be in JPEG format and not exceed 1MB. The part description should follow the criteria as stated on the entry form. The company’s name and contact information may only be stated at the bottom of the description.
4. The judging committee reserves the right to re-categorize a product submission and to merge categories that do not have at least five (5) entries.
5. All parts must be production units and not “one-off” samples. A limited number of electrical connections will be available in the parts competition area.
6. **All shipments must be identified on the outside of the box as “Parts Competition.”**
7. Submitters are required to retrieve their shipments and set up their part display in the designated Parts Competition area on the exhibition hall floor. Assistance is available (for a fee) from RPM XPO. Contact Abby Letts (E: abby@rpmxpo.com; P: 770-686-6512) for more information and to schedule assistance. RPM XPO can also provide in-bound and outbound shipping assistance for your parts. Parts Competition submitters are expected to retrieve, unpack and set up their displays on the show floor. SPE Thermoforming Division Board Members will also be on hand to help unpack and set up.
8. Set-up hours are Monday, September 20, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. All displays must be set up by 3 p.m. on Monday, September 20. Submitters are also responsible for packing and preparing their materials for outbound shipment at the conclusion of the Conference beginning on Wednesday, September 22, at 4 p.m. Neither the SPE Thermoforming Division nor RPM XPO is responsible for unclaimed part submissions at the conclusion of the Conference. You must schedule outbound shipping service via RPM XPO or your own carrier.
9. Submitters and individual category winners may receive publicity in trade journals or other publications. Submission of an entry constitutes acceptance of said publicity and confirms that the submitter has secured the necessary approvals to participate in the Parts Competition and to be featured in any subsequent publicity.

**2021 SPE THERMOFORMING CONFERENCE Submit completed application to:**

**PRODUCT ENTRY APPLICATION FORM Travis Kieffer, Parts Competition Chair**

**Grand Rapids, Michigan USA Email:** [**travisk@plasticsunlimited.com**](mailto:travisk@plasticsunlimited.com)

**FORM SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 20, 2021**

**SHIPMENT DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 10, 2021**

**I. Company Information II. Official Representative**

Submitter\* Name\*   
  
Processor Telephone\*  
  
Designer Mobile Phone\*  
  
Moldmaker Email\*  
  
Address 1\* Fax

Address 2\* Signature\*  
  
City, State, Country\*   
  
Postal Code Today’s Date **\*Denotes a required field.**

**III. \*Product Category (please check one)**

**Email the following to** [**travisk@plasticsunlimited.com**](mailto:travisk@plasticsunlimited.com)**:**

☐ This completed and signed entry form

☐ Product image in JPEG format, 1 MB limit  
☐ Product description in MS Word to include:  
 -Critical elements of design  
 -Intended use  
 -Materials used:  
-Please specify material being used and starting thickness  
-Design criteria should state challenges and how these challenges were addressed

1. How did this part provide a solution to customer requirements  
-Tooling: Please note whether part is produced from a prototype or production tooling and include:  
1. Challenges associated with tooling requirements  
2. Tooling characteristics (i.e. how many cavities, mold material, temperature controlled?)

Both the image and the description must be suitable for publication. For blind judging purposes, company identification may only be entered at the bottom of the page. Each entry must be accompanied by a separate hard copy of the completed entry form, description and image.

IV. Power required? ☐ Yes ☐ No

**Roll-Fed** **Heavy Gauge**   
☐ Industrial ☐ Vacuum Form   
☐ Medical ☐ Pressure Form  
☐ Food ☐ Twin Sheet

☐ TPO  
**Other**

☐ Production Parts from 3D-Printed Tooling **NEW!**

☐ Recycled/Sustainable Materials  
☐ Parts Produced with Automation and New Technology  
 Commercial products must be produced from   
 production tools.

**V. Shipping Information**

**Contact:** Travis Kieffer  
 2021 Parts Competition Chair  
 E: [travisk@plasticsunlimited.com](mailto:travisk@plasticsunlimited.com)  
 P: 563-357-9093

SPE Thermoforming 2021

ABF Freight, c/o RPMXPO  
2690 Courier Ct. NW   
Walker, MI 49534  
\*Email the contents of your shipment and tracking information to Abby Letts: [abby@rpmxpo.com](mailto:abby@rpmxpo.com)

**SPE Thermoforming Conference Parts Competition**

**Sample Product Description**

Overview

This Enclosure assembly houses a large, sophisticated medical treatment power supply.

Features and Benefits

All primary parts are twin sheet formed to provide a highly aesthetic, structurally rigid assembly for the enclosure.

Material is custom color pearlescent metallic, formed on a smooth tool surface to yield a high gloss appearance for the multipart assembly and is formed from an Acrylic-PVC blend.

The innovative design provides formed-in threaded inserts to receive quarter turn fasteners, allowing for easy, quick, and simple assembly by the OEM.

The large 4’X4’ advanced twin sheet, Upper Cover contains two 10” fan attachments providing ventilation control and noise reduction, through the integrated hollow-part design, while simultaneously maintaining the very high aesthetic requirements.

The innovative utilization of the undercut on the inside of door provides an easy- to-use handle and formed-in hinge receiving pads, with precise alignment, quick assembly, mounting features, making the device user friendly and easy to remove/replace by a single service manager.

Lower twin sheet skirts; utilize form-in plastic attachment features for immediate drop-in attachment eliminating need for mechanical fasteners.

Overall assembly time reduced OEM man-hours by 75%.

**Part submission descriptions that exceed this length will not be accepted and returned for editing.**