



Dear Sponsors, Exhibitors and Attendees,

The SPE Thermoforming Conference in Grand Rapids is approaching quickly! On behalf of the entire board of directors and conference committee, we are extremely excited and very much looking forward to seeing everyone in person!

I want to assure everyone that we are very mindful of the current situation and ongoing concerns that have evoked further caution due to the delta variant. We are taking precautions to keep everyone safe during our in-person conference:

- We suggest masks be worn during the conference at all times, except when eating or drinking. This includes any social gatherings and inside session rooms, workshop rooms, and on the exhibit floor. As of this writing, masks are not required in Grand Rapids; this, however, may change, and we will abide by any restrictions and guidelines that local health authorities impose.
- A limited supply of masks will be available at registration, and hand sanitizer stations will be staged throughout DeVos Place, including near the meeting rooms and on the exhibit hall floor. Please practice social distancing wherever possible. To the extent we are able, all workshop and session rooms, eating areas and social gatherings will include social distancing as well as in the registration area and wherever possible on the exhibit floor. We ask that everyone use their own due diligence and protect each other. Please allow for at least six feet of distance between each other when walking.
- Each exhibiting company and all attendees will receive hand sanitizer when they pick up their badges in the registration area.
- If you suspect you may have contracted and are showing symptoms of COVID-19, please get tested and quarantine in your hotel room until you receive your test results. If you are local and driving to Grand Rapids, and suspect you've been exposed, please do not come to the conference.
- All planned social events will either be outside or in large rooms with tall ceilings. Meals will either be plated, boxed or otherwise individually packaged to the extent we are able.
- Food and beverage staff at DeVos Place will be wearing masks and gloves.
- This is the first time we have planned a conference under these conditions. We ask that everyone continue to be patient as we work through this. Guidelines may change as we get closer to or even during the conference.
- Many organizations have safely executed meetings in this environment and we are learning from them. The hotels and the convention center have safely and successfully hosted meetings and conventions over the past several months. We are working closely with our hotel and convention center partners to benefit from their experience as well.
- DeVos Place has engaged a sanitation program that includes upgrades to its HVAC air filtration system and disinfection of high-touch areas. To learn more about these and additional measures at DeVos Place, visit this website: <https://www.devosplace.org/p/about1/venueshield>.

We remain confident that this conference will be successful with everyone's support. See you all in September!

Sincerely,

Steve Zamprelli, SPE Thermoforming Division Chair

Email: s.zamprelli@formedplastics.com

Phone: 914-552-2508